SINGLE FINDS OF ANGLO-SAXON AND NORMAN COINS – 2

M. A. S. BLACKBURN AND M. J. BONSER

This article is a sequel to that which appeared in volume 54 of this Journal. Information about the seventy-five coins published here was gathered mainly during 1985 and early 1986. Some fifty coins, single finds from a major site near Royston, have been reserved for separate publication. As in the first article, there is a bias towards finds from the eastern counties, which partly reflects the strength of our contacts with metal-detector users there (this is particularly true of Lincolnshire and Leicestershire), although the eastern region is perhaps the most productive part of the country for single finds.

The finds are arranged by site alphabetically, and numbered in sequence. The issues or issuers represented are as follows:

Sceattas
- 3–5, 10, 15, 17, 20–1, 27–8, 30, 35–6, 47, 61–2, 65, 74: Edmund 55?
- 1, 15, 17: Eadred 55?
- 2, 55: Edgar 33
- 55: Edward the Martyr 60

Eadbert Præn of Kent
- 71: Æthelred II 2, 11, 34, 46, 53

Archbishop Æthelheard
- 73: Cnut 52

Eadwald of East Anglia
- 51, 66: Harthacnut 24, 57

Offa of Mercia
- 19, 67: Harold I 9, 25, 37

Coenwulf of Mercia
- 48, 72: Edward the Confessor 1, 13, 18, 31, 38, 41

Beornwulf of Mercia
- 75: William I 8, 54, 70

Berhtwulf of Mercia
- 32: William II 6

Æthelred II of Northumbria
- 68–9: Henry I 14, 26, 45, 58

Cnut, Viking k. of York
- 63: Stephen 7, 16, 39, 40, 42, 59, 64

St Peter coinage
- 29: Henry II 12, 22, 43–4

Egbert of Wessex
- 23: French feudal 56

Athelstan
- 50

The coins illustrated on the accompanying plates are indicated by an asterisk before the number. The poor quality of certain of the photographs is regretted, but it reflects the fact that some were taken under difficult conditions while others were supplied by the finders themselves. A pellet beneath a letter in an inscription indicates that it is somewhat

Acknowledgements

Once again we are indebted to the many finders who have come forward to report their finds and to others who have assisted us in various ways in this project, including Miss M. M. Archibald, A. W. Bartlett, E. Braithwaite, S. Campbell, C. Capp, P. Crook, C. Daines, K. Dorton, I. J. Gittins, S. George, J. P. Gratton, R. Hoen, P. Hipkin, D. Jackson, M. Jubb, Mr A. Lewis, L. McCarthy, E. Manchester, Dr M. Mayes, Dr D. M. Metcalfe, H. Nicholson, H.E. Pagan, G. Palmer, R. Piper, Miss E.J.E. Pirie, Dr P. H. Robinson, R. Seaman, J. Simpson, D. Sorenson, P. Stanley, J. Stewart, K. Wendt, and B. Wilson. Special thanks are owed to J. Chapman, C. J. Marshall, and D. Wells for encouraging friends in their localities to report their coin finds and for ensuring that a photographic record was made of them. Finally, three numismatists, C. E. Blunt, D. S. Chick, and J. C. Sadler, generously provided us with material for inclusion in this article.
uncertain. Unless otherwise indicated, the coins remain with the finders or have been disposed of through the trade.1

**ALDBOURNE,** Wilts.


Weight: 1.78g (26.5gr.), pierced. Die-axis: 270°.

This coin is struck from the same dies as the hitherto unique cut-halfpenny reading +EAL...ALM (Elmore-Jones sale, lot 577), and gives welcome confirmation of Freeman's opinion that this was a coin of the moneyer Ealdwi(g) who struck the succeeding *Pointed Helmet* issue, rather than Ealdwine who was a Malmesbury moneyer in the *Sovereign/Eagles* type.2 Freeman has shown that another cut-halfpenny of this type reading ...PI ON MALM... (*SCBI* West Country Museums 688), attributed by Gunstone to Ealdwi, is more probably of the moneyer Brihtwi since it shares an obverse die with another coin of his (Elmore-Jones sale, lot 576), and indeed there is no die-link with the new coin from Aldbourne.

**ALFORD,** near, Lincs.


Weight: reported as 1.29g (19.8gr.). Die-axis: 90°.

One other specimen of this type and moneyer is recorded, which is in the Stockholm systematic collection (Hild. 629), struck from different dies.

**AYLESFORD,** Kent.

This coin was found in 1967 at Aylesford, near Maidstone. It was acquired by Mr D. S. Chick from a coin dealer, John Westlake, who had purchased it from the finder.

*3. *Porcupine* sceattas (Series E), secondary variety, c. 720–30? Central or eastern Frisia.

Obv. deeply cut curve with triangular 'head', line of small pellets between curve and five 'spines'. cross and two annulets in field left.

Rev. 'standard' decorated with annulet, three lines, and groups of two and three small pellets; outer border vacant?

Weight: 1.09g (16.8gr.).

Coins with a comparable obverse and related reverse design were present in the Lutje Saaksum hoard (pl. 10, no. 14), the Franceschi parcel (no. 21), and the Barthe hoard (several specimens).3 These finds are difficult to date since they only contained 'porcupine' sceattas, but they probably belong to the 720s or 730s. The later 'porcupine' varieties such as this are not commonly found in England.

**BALDOCK,** Herts.

*Site A*

Two sceattas were found in 1977–78 by Mr S. George using a metal-detector at an unspecified site in or near Baldock. They were lent to us for study by the finder.

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3 For references to the various hoards of sceattas from the Low Countries referred to here and below see W. Op den Velde, W. J. de Boone, and A. Pol, 'A survey of sceatta finds from the Low Countries', in *Sceattas in England and on the Continent*, edited by D. Hill and D. M. Metcalf (BAR, British series 128, 1984), pp. 117–45. For the 'Franceschi' parcel see D. M. Metcalf, 'A hoard of “porcupine” sceattas', *MN* 15 (1969), 101–18. Photographs of the unpublished coins in Emden Museum from the Barthe hoard have been consulted in Dr D. Hill's 'Sceatta project' archive.
4. 'Porcupine' sceat (Series E), Metcalf class A var., c. 710-20? Frisia or Lower Rhineland.
Weight: 1.15g (17.7gr.). Die-axis: 270°.
The obverse with a stroke between the second and third central bar has affinities with the 'VICO' variety, though it does not actually belong to that group. The reverse, with its carefully formed letters 'T'PONI and crosses in the outer border to left and right, is typical of the best coins of class A in the Hallum and Barthe hoards. The presence of pellets in the lower half of the 'standard' is also usual, though the precise arrangement on this coin is rarely found. We have been unable to find any exact parallels for this combination of obverse and reverse designs.

5. 'Woden/monster' sceat, BMC 31 (Series X), c. 710-35? Frisia or Denmark?
Obv. facing head flanked by crosses.
Rev. animal left, looking backwards, pellet in field left.
Weight: 1.03g (15.9gr.). Die-axis: 270°.
The coin is a typical example of the Continental 'Woden/monster' type, and similar to specimens in the Hallum hoard (dep. c. 720).

Site B
Two other coins found in 1977-78 by Mr George, but on a different site in or near Baldock, were reported to us.

The coin was disposed of some years ago, but it had been seen by Mr Robert Seaman who recalls that it had the same legends as BMC 69. These are:
Obv. + PILLELM REX
Rev. + SIGOD ON BEDF
Weight and die-axis: not recorded.

7. Stephen, Profile/Cross-and Piles type (BMC vi; North 879).
Uncertain mint and moneyer.
Obv. + [ ] Rev. + RA[ ]
Cut-halfpenny. Weight: 0.46g (7.10gr.). Die-axis: uncertain.
Possibly a coin of the moneyer Ralf of London, who is recorded for this very rare type (cf. Mack* no. 86). The bust, which is hard to discern, is unusual in having a pelleted sash cutting the edge of the coin, though we do not think it is a mule with another type.

BEKESBOURNE, Kent.
This coin was found in November 1981 by Mr S. George at Bekesbourne, south east of Canterbury. It was acquired by Dover Museum in 1982, but without a record of its find provenance. It will be included in A. J. H. Gunstone's SCBI South Eastern Museums, no. 1762.

Obv. + PILLELM REX
Rev. + EDOFD ON DOFR
Weight: 1.17g (18.1gr.). Die-axis: 90°.

BERKELEY, near, Glos.
Found in 1981 near Berkley.

Obv. + HAROLD RECX
Rev. + LEOPHNINE ON BRIC-
Weight: 1.02g (15.7gr.). Die-axis: not recorded.
From the same dies as SCBI Copenhagen iv 11.

BINBROOK, Lines.
This sceat was found early in 1985 by Mr E. Braithwaite while using a metal detector on a ploughed field at Binbrook in the Lincolnshire Wolds, north west of Louth (site recorded confidentially).

Obv. diadem bust right, with cross before face.
Rev. 'standard', with decoration x-x/-0/-x-, decoration of outer border not visible.
Weight and die-axis: not recorded.
The coin is badly corroded obliterating many of the features of the obverse design, so that only the nose, ear, diadem, and cross can be discerned. The ear is large and rounded, forming a full half-circle, and this

feature alone is enough to rule out the possibility that the Binbrook find belongs to the imitative group referred to in the discussion of the Wymeswold find (no. 74 below). The cross in front of the face is large and solidly executed, with pellets at the ends of the limbs. The nearest parallel that has been located is Lockett 214b. On both specimens the line of the diadem is nearer to the top of the head, and to the top of the flan, than on the finest style coins of Series G (e.g. the Garton on the Wolds specimens or Lockett 214a). The diadem terminates in a single bold dot above the forehead, as on Lockett 214b. The arrangement on the reverse of three crosses, a trefoil of pellets, and two single pellets corresponds to Metcalf's variety b, which was represented in the Hallum hoard (dep. c. 720).

BLYTH, Notts.

Two coins were found at Blyth, north west of Worksop (site recorded confidentially). No. 12 was found on 16 November 1984 and no. 11 on 23 February 1985.

   Obv. +ÆBEL[ED REX] ANGO (NG ligatured).
   Rev. +C[OL/G]RIM|MEO/LINC
   Weight: 1.39g (20.2gr.), fragment. Die-axis: 270°.
   The coin is from the same dies as Mossop pi. 10, no. 22. The dies are locally cut, probably from a centre in Lincoln, the products of which show considerable variety in the proportions and composition of the king's bust. The fine clear lines of the design, evident particularly in the hair, are typical of this school, as is the error in the spelling of the ethnic. This is perhaps one of the centre's earlier products, for it makes a good attempt to copy the busts on early London-cut dies.

   Obv. +[ ]
   Rev. [ ]
   Cut-farthing. Weight: 0.27g (4.2gr.). Die-axis: c. 225°.
   On the obverse one can just make out the king's arm, the shaft of the sceptre, and the initial cross, but it is too little from which to identify the class of bust.

BRAMPTON, Hunts. (Cambs.)

Found in 1983 in a load of gravel which had been deposited at St Neots, Hunts. (Cambs.), but which is known to have been extracted from gravel workings at Brampton, south west of Huntingdon (NGR TL215715).

   Obv. +[ ]
   Rev. [ ]
   Weight: not recorded. Die-axis: reported as 45°.
   From the same obverse die as SCBI Copenhagen iv 1138.

BRANDON region, Suffolk.

This coin was found in March 1982 in the Brandon area on the Norfolk/Suffolk borders. It was published, along with several other single finds, by J. C. Sadler in the Ipswich Numismatic Society Notes 5 (1983–5), 7–18, at 16–17, and illustrated by his own very skilful, enlarged line-drawings. This admirable local periodical, edited by Sadler, is printed in a run of only 20–25 copies for members of the Society. In order that these finds should be accessible to a wider audience, Mr Sadler has most generously invited us to include them here, since other commitments preclude him from preparing an article on them for the Journal himself. We are further indebted to him for making the necessary arrangements for us to study and photograph the coins.

   Obv. +[ ]
   Rev. +[ ]
   Weight: 1.13g (17.4gr.), snicked. Die-axis: 120°.
   The obverse appears to omit the usual quatrefoil of four annulets to the right of the bust. Coins of type ix are extremely rare. They were absent from the great Lincoln (Malandry) hoard, and Archibald has suggested that they may have followed after types v and vi. The first two letters of the moneyer's name Ha are clear enough, the penultimate one is possibly an A, and the last seems to be a C or L. Mr Sadler comments:

   there is a possibility that the mint and moneyer have been hammered out as there are some ripple marks over the critical areas which might have been caused by hammering. Even so the moneyer is unknown to J. J. North who gives only eight mints to type ix, two possibles and a mule, hence the probability here is that we have a 'new' mint as well as moneyer, for the type.

BRIGG, Lines. (S. Humberside)

Found by a metal-detector user in October 1985 'at Brigg', to the west of the Lincolnshire Wolds.

15. 'Porcupine' sceat (Series E), Metcalf 'VI CO' variety, c. 700. Lower Rhineland.
   Weight and die-axis: not recorded.

BRODSWORTH, Yorks.

Found by a metal-detector user on 29 August 1985 at Brodsworth, north west of Doncaster (site recorded confidentially).

   Obv. - Rev. [M]
   Cut-farthing. Weight: 0.22g (3.4gr.).
   The obverse shows a plain arm, cuff, and part of the hand, and above that the two lower lines of the collar decorated with pellets.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

This coin was acquired by Mr David Sorenson in June 1985 from the Granta Coin and Stamp Shop, Cambridge. It was said to have been found 'in Cambridgeshire'.

17. 'Porcupine' sceat (Series E), variant of Metcalf class G, c. 700-10 or a little later. Lower Rhineland or Frisia?
   Obv. 'porcupine' with triangular 'face' containing two pellets, in front a pseudo-inscription(?), perhaps runic, the letters taking the approximate form +MZG.
   Rev. 'standard' decorated with a pelleted annulet and four bars, in an outer border of strokes and pellets.
   Weight: 1.05g (16.2gr.). Dark patina and slightly pitted, but appears to be of good silver.
   This is a particularly striking coin because it gives the impression that the 'porcupine' was intended to have a face, represented by an angular nose and two eyes, and perhaps even insect-like legs. It is very similar to, and quite possibly from the same dies as, a coin that was found at Domburg in the mid-nineteenth century, which has been reproduced in line-drawings by Dirks, De Man, and recently by Op den Velde, De Boone, and Pol. Its zoomorphic features and possible inscription led to speculation that it played some role in influencing the development of the 'porcupine' design, standing between BMC type 10 (with an obvious face and related 'inscription') and coins of Metcalf class G. The strokes to the right of the obverse appear to be pseudo-runic and probably emulate those found in Series D, which ultimately copy the 'aspa' legend on English coins of Series C. Support for this view is provided by BMC type 10, which mules this variant 'porcupine' obverse with the obverse design of Series D. We are inclined to regard the Domburg/Cambridgeshire coins as aberrant imitations of Metcalf class G, rather than one of the elusive prototypes of the 'porcupine' design. It is difficult to date these coins without hoard evidence, but they are likely to be roughly contemporary with Metcalf class G and Series D, and thus c. 700-10 or a little later.

CAWOOD, Yorks.

On 26 May 1980, a metal-detecting rally was organized in the village of Cawood, ten miles south of York, to raise money for the church. This coin of Edward the Confessor was found under a hedge in the churchyard. It was declared to be the best find of the day and was sold in order that the proceeds could go to the church funds. It was cited in Metcalf's check-list of late Anglo-Saxon single finds, but it has never been fully described or illustrated. The finder kindly contacted us and has supplied us with photographs of the coin.

18. Edward the Confessor, Pyramids type, c. 1065-66 (Hild. I; North 831 var.). York, moneyer Iocetel.
   Obv. EADPARD REX   Rev. +IOC CETEL ON EOFE, annulet in 4th heraldic quarter.
   Weight and die-axis: not recorded.
   From the same dies as SCBI Yorkshire 643-44.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT, Worcs.

Found in June 1983 at Woodcote. Chaddesley Corbett, between Kidderminster and Bromsgrove. This coin was auctioned by Glendining & Co. on 2 May 1984, lot 61.


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6 J. Dirks, RBN 1870, pl. F, no. 18; M. de Man, TMP 1895, pl. 1, no. 4; Op den Velde, de Boone, and Pol, p. 137.
Obv. +OFFA REX ME, around C (for Merciorum).
Rev. +[+]. OSMOD (inverted ornamental M).
Weight: 1.20g. (18.5gr.), chipped and corroded on obverse. Die-axis: 60°.
This is a new combination of types, combining the Circular obverse of Blunt 72 with the Three-line reverse of Blunt 103. Its discovery adds support to Lyon's view that Blunt 72 (known from a single specimen, BMA 43) is an early transitional issue of the heavy coinage, suggested both by its weight (20.3gr., but chipped) and by similarities with the earliest coins of Archbishop Æthelheard with the title pontifex (Blunt 133-4). The central device on the obverse has been variously interpreted as a rounded T or a degraded alpha and omega, but it is better understood as a c with a contraction mark above, thus continuing the legend Merciorum, cf. coins of Æthelheard (Blunt 137-8; no. 73 below).

CHELMSFORD, near, Essex.
Three coins relevant here were found during 1984–85 on a field near Chelmsford (site recorded confidentially). Two of the coins were lent to us for study, the third has been mislaid. Among the later coins from the site is a short cross penny of William the Lion or Alexander II by Hue Walter.

*20. Sceat, BMC 27b (Series B), c. 685–700. London?
Obv. OTAVM[ ]oo, head with single pearl diadem ending in large pellet, within an animal headed torque.
Rev. of MAVMNAVoo bird on cross, with two annulets in field, within an animal headed torque.
Weight: 1.11g (17.1gr.). Die-axis: 90°.
From the same obverse die as Rigold BIc4 (Ashmolean Museum), but a different reverse which is similar to many of variety BIA.

21. 'Porcupine' sceat (Series E). Lower Rhineland/Frisia. This coin was reported to us, but not seen.

Obv. +hEI[ ]
Rev. f DMV
Weight: 1.35g (20.8gr.). Die-axis: 270°.
Probably struck from the same reverse die as BMC 24–7 and Elmore-Jones photographs pi. 13, no. 23, and possibly from the same obverse as BMC 27 (bust D1). The alternative interpretation of the reverse legend as the moneyer Edmund of London is unlikely in view of the probable die-link.

COLLINGBOURNE DUCIS, Wilts.
This coin was found in 1984 at Collingbourne Ducis, a village in eastern Wiltshire, a short distance south west of the church. It was offered for sale by Spink (NCirc October 1984, no. 6622) without a find provenance, and it is published here at the invitation of Mr D.S. Chick in whose collection the coin now is.

Obv. +ECGBEORHT REX
Rev. +BEAGMVND MONE (ND and NE ligatured).
Weight: 1.09g (16.8gr.), chipped. Die-axis: 270°.
Five coins of this type and moneyer were present in the London (Middle Temple) hoard, dep. c. 840.

EAST HARLING, Norfolk
Three coins are reported to have been found in September/October 1982 at East Harling, near the Norfolk/Suffolk border. They were published in the Ipswich Numismatic Society Notes 5 (1983–85), 12–16, and are cited here by courtesy of Mr John Sadler.

*24. Harthacnut, Jewel Cross type, variety with right-facing bust, c. 1036–37 (Hild. Aa; North 809). Canterbury?, moneyer Leofnoth?
Obv. [ ][CNVT[ ] ] Rev. +LEOFN[ ]T
Cut-halfpenny. Weight: 0.61g (9.4gr.). Die-axis: 90°.
Although the names of the mint and moneyer are incomplete, they can, as Mr Sadler has suggested, be identified with some confidence. Leofnoth is the only name commencing LEOFN... that occurs as a moneyer in the late Anglo-Saxon coinage. During the 1030s there were moneyers of this name at several mints, but only two of them, Canterbury and Gloucester, lay within the region in which Harthacnut issued coins of the Jewel Cross type, the others lay in territory controlled by Harold I. The final letter T of the reverse legend points to Canterbury (CENT) as the mint of origin. Although Leofnoth seems not to

have been recorded there for coins of this particular issue, it is reasonable to think that he would have struck them, since he is known from the three preceding issues of Cnut and for later Jewel Cross coins in Harold's name, as well as for his Fleur-de-Lis issue. Coins of this variety with a right-facing bust were formerly thought to post-date those with a left-facing bust, but Talvio has recently suggested that they were in fact contemporaneous, the dies for the right-facing ones having been cut at London and those for the left-facing ones at Winchester. 10 Canterbury moneyers struck coins only of the right-facing variety, and thus presumably drew all their dies from London.

Obv. +HARO/LD REC+  
Rev. +ÆGELMER ON-BEDFOR
Weight: 0.95g (14.7gr.), chipped. Die-axis: 270°.
From the same dies as SCBI Copenhagen iv 538-9. Mr Sadler points out that the O of ON has been repunched over a wrongly placed upright.

Obv. +HENRI RI  
Rev. +SPROT ON SVBP
Cf. BMC 22, possibly from the same reverse die.

FOLKESTONE, near, Kent.
Two sceattas were found by Mr R. Piper a quarter of a mile from each other (sites recorded confidentially), one in March 1985 (Series C) and the other in October 1985 (Series B). Mr D. S. Chick kindly took photographs of the coins for us and obtained their weights and die-axes.

*27. Sceat, BMC 27b, Rigold Blc (Series B), c. 690-700. London?
Obv. *[AVHA][AH][VI][E]  
Rev. *[AVHA][AVHA]*
Weight: 1.12g (17.3gr.). Die-axis: 225°.
From the same dies as a coin in the British Museum, ex Barnett bequest (no. 254), illustrated by Rigold, pl. III, Blc 2i.

Obv. apa or æpa (in runes), radiate bust right, ornamental A behind.
Rev. 'standard' with +T+O/II, border of +T+T etc., in pelleted circle.
Weight: 1.18g (18.2gr.). Die-axis: 270°.
Recorded finds of Series C sceattas are relatively scarce, nevertheless it has become apparent that their find distribution differs significantly from that of the other runic series, Series R, suggesting that they originate from different regions. This new find, and another of Series C from near Telscombe, East Sussex, to be published by D. M. Metcalf, serve to emphasize the distinctions still further. The distributions, as they presently stand based on published reports, are shown in Table 1. The finds of Series R are strongly concentrated in East Anglia, with 87 per cent of single finds coming from Suffolk, Norfolk, or Cambridgehire, and only occasional specimens being found in the neighbouring counties of Kent, Essex, Bedfordshire, and Lincolnshire. There can be no doubt that Series R originates from East Anglia.

Series C, by contrast, has a much wider distribution. Only 20 or 25 per cent of the single finds are from East Anglia, 31 per cent are from Kent or East Sussex, and the remainder are dispersed between Essex, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Warwickshire and Yorkshire. It was also the most plentiful English type in the Aston Rowant hoard from Oxfordshire. In recent years, Series C has usually been regarded as the forerunner of Series R in East Anglia, but a case for the former Kentish attribution has lately been raised again. 11 It is suggested that Series C was the successor of Series A, from which it derives its basic design, with a revival of the Kentish(?) practice of naming the prominent individual who was responsible for the coinage, i.e. Æpa following the precedents of Witmen and Pada. The distribution of finds also supports an attribution to Kent, even if the concentration there is much less than that of Series R in East Anglia. The reason for this lies in the differing nature of coin circulation in the two regions. During the first half of the eighth century coin seems to have flowed out of the South East (i.e.  

11 For example in D. M. Metcalf, 'Monetary circulation in southern England in the first half of the eighth century', in Sceattas in England and on the Continent, pp. 7-69, at pp. 32 and 58.
12 M. Blackburn, 'A chronology for the sceattas', in Sceattas in England and on the Continent, pp. 165-74, at p. 166; MEC 1, p. 166.
TABLE 1

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Kent and the Lower Thames valley) to other parts of England on a fairly substantial scale, while regions such as East Anglia, Wessex, and Northumbria formed distinct circulation pools which received coin from elsewhere, but out of which coin rarely passed. This implies an economy in which people from the South East were generally purchasing goods from other parts of England and selling them abroad, especially to traders from the Lower Rhineland. Unfortunately, the rapid coin circulation in the South East has hampered identification of the local issues. It also remains to be seen whether the precise dividing line between Series C and R proposed by Rigold holds good.

GODMANCHESTER, Hunts. (Cambs.)
This coin was found with a metal detector in March 1982 during the construction of the Roman Way Industrial Estate, near London Road, Godmanchester (NGR TL250700). It was found some three feet below the modern surface after the top soil had been cleared.

Obv. +ERACE c  Rev. -/SCI II/- • -/TII II L/_-  (S on its side).
Weight: not recorded. Die-axis: 100°.
The degree of contraction of the Eborace civ obverse legend and the corruption of the St Peter mo reverse (with the suspension mark transposed from the top to the bottom line) suggests that the coin belongs towards the end of the issue, i.e. to the later 910s. Although the St Peter coins have been found mainly in Northumbria and Ireland, they evidently circulated to some extent in the southern Danelaw as shown by the Morley St Peter hoard from Norfolk and a small number of single finds such as this and one of similar date from Lincoln.

GREAT WILBRAHAM, near, Cambs.
This coin was found c. 1980 on a field adjoining the Roman road at Great Wilbraham, some five miles east of Cambridge (site recorded confidentially). It was presented to Cambridge University's Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in 1980, together with other archaeological artefacts from the neighbourhood, by Mrs B. C. Hyde-Smith whose family owned Great Wilbraham Hall and the adjoining estate. In March 1986 it was transferred to the Fitzwilliam Museum on long term deposit, but too late for inclusion in MEC 1. We are grateful to Mrs Hyde-Smith for providing information about the location and circumstances of the find.

Obv. wolf-whorl with thin beaded body, surrounded by a wire torque (without animal-head terminal), within a border of pellets.

Medieval Coins from Lincoln and its Shire c. 700–1100
"SINGLE FINDS OF ANGLO-SAXON AND NORMAN COINS - 2"

Rev. ‘standard’, decorated with a pelleted annulet and four pellets; in outer border, a cross on each side and lines radiating from the corners.

Weight: 0.97g (15.0gr.). Fairly base silver.

This is the third known specimen combining the wolf-whorl and ‘standard’ types, the others having been found at Winchester and Lakenheath, Suffolk.14 The obverse of the Wilbraham coin is modelled fairly closely on that of type 32a, and in particular the style CD which Metcalf now attributes to a Kentish mint, though it circulated widely elsewhere.15 The large jaws and up-turned tongue are typical of the style, as is the wire torque without an animal-head terminal, yet the design is something of a caricature of the original and the die is clearly imitative. The reverse is influenced by the East Anglian rune type (Series R), which often has a small ‘standard’ surrounded by four crosses and radiating lines, but the decoration within the ‘standard’ seems to be copied from ‘porcupine’ sceattas of Metcalf class D or its derivatives.

The Lakenheath coin has the same reverse design and is presumably from the same workshop, although its obverse is a much cruder imitation with a reversed image, lacking the long curled tongue and wire torque. The Winchester coin, on the other hand, is of finer style than either of these, closely copying another variety of the CD style without a wire torque; it could even be from an official CD die. Its reverse, although a ‘standard’ design, is quite different from the others, being decorated with four annulets linked by a cross and having as an outer border three pellets on each side of the ‘standard’. This is similar to the reverse of the rare and enigmatic type 46.

One might expect the Lakenheath and Wilbraham coins to be East Anglian in origin, given the very limited distribution of Series R outside that kingdom (see above, p. 61), yet a Winchester findspot virtually precludes an East Anglian attribution for the third coin. If these three have a common source we must look to the South East or possibly Middle Anglia. However, it is quite possible that the Winchester find emanates from a separate workshop and that the similarities of type are merely coincidental.

HOSE, near Letes.

This coin, mounted as a brooch, was found in late 1985 by a metal-detector user on a ploughed field near Hose, north of Melton Mowbray (site recorded confidentially). The photograph (approximately to scale) was provided by the finder. The site has also produced fourth-century /E coins and a cut-halfpenny of Short Cross type.

Edward the Confessor, Pointed Helmet type, c. 1053-56 (Hild. F; North 825). Winchester, moneyer Godwine.

Obv. +EDPER-/D  REX  Rev. +GODPINE ON PI[

Weight: not recorded; two rivets adhering. Die-axis: 0°.

The special interest of this coin lies in its treatment for use as a brooch. The finder’s account of the discovery is of relevance: ‘on finding the object at first I thought it was a Roman button or stud of some type because it was rust red colour, not the typical black of silver oxides. Across the obverse was a lump of green corrosion (possibly copper) which just disintegrated when being washed at home. Not until I saw the head did I realize it was a silver coin’. The two neat rivets which pierce the coin appear to be of silver, and they presumably held a bronze mount and pin. This was perhaps similar to the much better preserved mount and pin on a William I coin brooch from Billingsgate in London, a metal-detector find shown at the London Museum in 1984 (information P. Stott). On this brooch two bronze blocks were welded, rather than riveted, to the coin.

The brooch from Hose displays the reverse of the coin in preference to its pictorial obverse. The geometric design no doubt appealed to Anglo-Saxon tastes, and the owner may also have been aware of the religious symbolism of the cruciform design. The Billingsgate brooch also shows the reverse face, as do several of the brooches which emulate coins.16

HOXNE, Suffolk

This coin is reported to have been found ‘at Hoxne’, a village on the Norfolk/Suffolk border to the east of Diss. It was acquired before October 1985 by B. A. Seaby Limited, who kindly invited us to publish it here. The coin was offered for sale in SCMB April 1986, no. E127.

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SINGLE FINDS OF ANGLO-SAXON AND NORMAN COINS – 2

Obv. BE[RH]+YII REX, bust right, with double diadem and four strokes to the drapery.  
Rev. +[Z]YLF MONETA (z on side, NE ligatured), cross-crosslet.  
Weight: 0.70g (10.8gr.), chipped.  
Die-axis: 0°.  
The moneyer Oswulf is well attested for coins of the Portrait/Cross-crosslet type, but this specimen  
differs from others in the style of the bust and epigraphy. The bust is somewhat crude, with a straight  
nose cutting the diadem at right angles, simple drapery and weakly engraved hair. The inscriptions  
appear to be essaying those of a coin in the Hunter collection (SCBI Glasgow 358), which is a classic  
example of North’s group IA style. On the Hoxne coin, however, the T of BERHTWLF is represented as a  
cross (it can hardly be a runic N) and the LF are single strokes. The coin seems to belong to neither of North’s  
groups I and II, but our knowledge of Berhtwulf’s coinage at present is too poor for us to be able to  
exclude it from the corpus of his official coins, even if one day it may be necessary to classify it as a  
contemporary imitation.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, Northants.

Two coins were found at Irthlingborough, north east of Wellingborough (site recorded confidentially), no. 33  
by Mr K. Darton in October 1985 and no. 34 by Mr D. Jackson on 12 January 1986. They were discovered with  
metal detectors after top soil had been removed from the site, but they would have been some two feet below  
the previous modern surface. Both coins were severely bent when found. The first unfortunately broke into two  
pieces when the finder attempted to flatten it; the second remains in its original bent state.

*33. Edgar, Circumscription type, c. 959–73 (BMC iii; North 749). Uncertain mint (possibly Huntingdon or  
Northampton), moneyer Hardbrit.  
Obv. +EADGAR REX ANG[LO]RX (first X incomplete, NG ligatured).  
Rev. +[H]ARDB[ R]IT MO[N]ETA H  
Weight: 1.09g (16.8gr.), broken and chipped.  
The moneyer Hardbrit (OE Heardbeorht or CG Hardber?) does not appear to be recorded for the  
coinage of Edgar or adjoining reigns. The mint signature is ambiguous since it is only the initial letter of  
the name, and although it has the form H, it could stand for N or even M. Of the possible mints,  
Huntingdon or Northampton are the most likely, since they are each only some fifteen or twenty miles  
from Irthlingborough. However, we cannot altogether rule out the possibility of Hertford, Maldon,  
Malmesbury, or Southampton. The style of the dies, with small neat lettering and full legends using the  
form Anglorum and moneta, is that associated with a southern die-cutting centre, probably Winchester.  
Such dies were, however, distributed widely, and were used at mints in the Midlands, including Bedford,  
Buckingham, Northampton (by four moneyers), and Tamworth.18

Obv. +ÆBELRE[ ]GLO  
Rev. +PF[  ]VNO[N]D ON HAMTVN  
Weight: 1.46g (22.5gr.), bent.  
Die-axis: 270°.  
The legends are similar to those of Hild. 1277.

Lakenheath, near, Suffolk

This coin, said to be a metal-detector find from near Lakenheath, was offered for sale by B. A. Seaby Limited  
(SCMB 1984, E94; and 1985, E140), from which it was recorded in the revised 1984 version of Rigold and  
Metcalf’s check-list of finds.19 Messrs Seaby have kindly provided us with a photograph and its weight for  
inclusion here.

*35. Runic sceat (Series R), c. 710–50 (North 158 var.). Uncertain East Anglian mint.  
Obv. stylized bust left, with blundered ‘epc’(?), in runes.  
Rev. ‘standard’ decorated with an annulet, two bars and two right angles; outer border of lines radiating  
from two corners and crosses on three sides.  
Weight: 0.84g (13.0gr.).

18 M. Blackburn, ‘Waerin: a Northampton moneyer for  
19 S. E. Rigold, ‘A revised check-list of English finds of  
SINGLE FINDS OF ANGLO-SAXON AND NORMAN COINS – 2

LOUTH, near, Lincs.

Coins have been reported to us from three separate sites each on the south-eastern scarp of the Lincolnshire Wolds a few miles south of Louth (findspots recorded confidentially).

Site A

Five relevant coins have been found, no. 40 in October 1984, nos. 36–8 in October 1985, and no. 39 in March 1986.


Obv. 'porcupine', with a pellet on the curve towards the right-hand end; three bars within curve.

Rev. 'standard', decorated with TOT/II (the Is inclined) and a pellet above and below the central O. Outer border of three hatched lines to the right and two pellets(?) below.

Weight: 0.85g (13.1gr.), corroded. Fairly base silver.

Related coins were present in the Hallum hoard, deposited c. 720, but the closest parallels are to be found in the somewhat later Barthe hoard. This coin is therefore rather later than the majority of 'porcupines' found in this country, which belong to the first decade or so of the eighth century.


Obv. +HARO/LDDLD R: Rev. +OSFERD ON LINCOL

Weight: reported as 0.86g (13.3gr.). Die-axis: not recorded.

Struck from the same obverse die as Mossop, pl. LVIII, nos. 27–29, with its erroneous repetition of LD, but from a new reverse die.

*38. Edward the Confessor, Pacx type, c. 1042–44 (Hild. D; North 813). Stamford, moneyer Ælfeth.

Obv. +EDPRD/RECX Rev. +ÆLF/EH ON ST./ANF

Weight: 0.91g (14.0gr.). Die-axis: 270°.


Obv. [ ]EFNE R: Rev. [ ]SBERI

Weight: 1.23g (19.0gr.). Die-axis: 160°.

The style of bust is typical of that group of coins having an obverse legend STIEFNE R:, as here. The obverse and reverse designs are clear and well struck up, yet the reverse legend is so faint as to suggest that it has been deliberately hammered out. If the reading above is correct, this would appear to be a coin of the moneyer Osbern at Ipswich (or possibly at Lewes, but the Lewes coins are scarcer and the mint more distant). Alternatively, the first visible letter of the reverse legend might be a D (though it does not look like one), and the moneyer one of the Rodberts who were active at London, Canterbury, Hastings, and Shrewsbury in this issue. We have been unable to find a die-link to settle the attribution.


Obv. [ ]X: Rev. [ ]ON[ ]

Cut-farthing. Weight: reported as 0.36g (5.48gr.).

Site B

Two coins were found in October 1985. The finder kindly sent us the first for study as the reverse inscription was difficult to read from photographs.


Obv. +EPDPRD/RE++ Rev. +GODPGG ON LVNDIEN-

Weight: 1.30g (20.1gr.). Die-axis: 200°.

In his recent study on the coinage of Edward the Confessor, Dr Anthony Freeman was reluctant to admit Godwig to the canon of London moneyers and preferred to normalize the names on three recorded coins (Trefoil Quadrilateral, GODPG; Pointed Helmet, GODPG and GODPC) as Godric.20 This was in part, perhaps, because he had not seen illustrations of the latter two, cited only from the Carlyon-Britton sale catalogues. The new coin must add support to the case for an independent moneyer Godwig. After seeing the coin, we are in no doubt as to the correctness of its reverse reading, which is identical to that of Carlyon-Britton lot 1137d, probably struck from the same die. It seems to us unacceptable to normalize such a name as Godric, and, despite the very small number of coins attributable to him, we believe that Godwig should be regarded as a separate moneyer.

20 Freeman, p. 161–2, 164.
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**SINGLE FINDS OF ANGLO-SAXON AND NORMAN COINS – 2**

   \[\text{Obv. } [\text{NE}] \quad \text{Rev. } [\text{T} \odot]\]
   Weight: reported as 1.21g (18.7gr.).

Site C

Two cut-halfpennies found in October 1985. The second was lent to us by the finder for study.

   \[\text{Obv. +[ ] Rev. } [\text{AN}]
   \]
   Cut-halfpenny. Weight: reported as 0.68g (10.5gr.).

   \[\text{Obv. } +\text{hE[ ] Rev. } [\text{EM:}]
   \]
   Cut-halfpenny. Weight: 0.68g (10.5gr.).

MARKET WEIGHTON, near, E. Yorks. (N. Humberside)

Found on 10 September 1983, near Market Weighton, north east of Hull.

   \[\text{Rev. } +\text{s} / \text{A/RV/S ON}, \text{ inner inscription } +\text{LVNDENE}
   \]
   \[\text{Obv. } \text{hE[ ]}
   \]
   This coin provides a new moneyer for the type. Sigar(us) was previously recorded as a London moneyer
   for each of the issues from Henry I’s type iii to type xiv, except types iv, viii, and xi.

MAWGAN PORTH, Cornwall

This find, which was kindly drawn to our attention by Mr H. E. Pagan, seems not to have been cited hitherto in numismatic literature, and in view of the scarcity of coin finds from Cornwall (see discussion of Padstow find, no. 53 below) it deserves to be described here. It was discovered by Mr G. F. Wilmot, F.S.A., later keeper of the Yorkshire Museum, during the 1949 excavations of an Anglo-Saxon settlement at Mawgan Porth, on the north coast, near the village of St Mawgan, north of Newquay.21

   \[\text{Obv. } +\text{hE[ ] Rev. } +\text{GODA M O LYDA}
   \]
   Weight: not recorded, chipped and corroded. Die-axis: 90°.
   From the same reverse die, and possibly the same obverse die, as SCBI Helsinki 82.

METHWOLD, Norfolk

Two coins were found in August 1985 by a metal-detector user, Mr R. Heen, at Methwold, a village on the edge of the Fens (site recorded confidentially). The finder made the first coin available to us for study, but the second he had already sold to B. A. Seaby Limited, who kindly provided us with photographs and a note of its weight. This latter coin has since been acquired by Mr C. E. Blunt.

   \[\text{Obv. intersecting lines, possibly representing foliage, three pellets in field.}
   \]
   \[\text{Rev. cross with each arm cut by two lines terminating in pellets, one arm has a third cross-bar. There is a}
   \]
   \[\text{pellet in each quarter, and the border consists of a zig-zag line and more pellets.}
   \]
   Weight: 1.20g (18.5gr.). Relatively good silver.
   This coin is problematic. While the weight, module, and fabric are consistent with a sceat or denier of the
   first half of the eighth century, its designs are unknown in the Anglo-Saxon, Frisian, or Merovingian
   coinages. Since, however, it seems to be a genuinely old coin rather than a modern fabrication, and Dr
   Melinda Mays has informed us that in her opinion it is not a Celtic coin, we are inclined to regard it as an
   English or Continental sceat.
   The obverse design is a puzzle, for while some elements appear to be carefully drawn and resemble
   branches, the composition as a whole seems meaningless. It may possibly be inspired by the ‘porcupine’ or
   ‘bird-in-branch’ types, but if so it is a very free representation. The reverse, on the other hand, is
   carefully planned and executed, and quite novel. Cross-croslet designs occur on English sceattas of
   Series W and in the Merovingian coinage, but we know of no parallels for the double croslet and pellets.
   Some affinities can be seen in the design of an equally enigmatic coin, which was among the recent finds
   from a major site near Royston (to be published by the present writers). This coin (weight 1.07g) also has

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on the obverse an arrangement of intersecting lines and three pellets, though they are much cruder than those on the Methwold coin and they have no semblance of foliage, while the reverse has a simple cross with several pellets in each angle. [While this article was in the press, a second specimen from the same dies was auctioned by Sotheby, 17 July 1986, lot 193, said to be ex Aston Rowant hoard.]

Obv. +COENWULF / REX M, laureat and diademed bust right.  
Rev. +ÆLHUVN (N retrograde), cross-crosslet with many pellets in field.  
Weight: 1.34g (20.7gr.), chipped. Die-axis: 0°.  
This is only the second known coin of Coenwulf with a laureat bust and naturalistic drapery copied directly from the contemporary Carolingian coinage. The other specimen, by the moneyer Ceolbald (BLS Cn 95), seems to be the work of the same die-cutter and is presumably of much the same date, although the diadem running over the forehead is less carefully delineated and the top of the head interrupts the inscription. Its reverse design, a cross and four pellets, is characteristic of the moneyer, just as a cross-crosslet is of Ælhus. The prototype may be a solidus of Louis the Pious (814-40) as suggested by Blunt, Lyon, and Stewart, although it could as well have been a portrait denier of Charlemagne’s last issue (c. 806-14?) or Louis’ first (c. 814-19), which at some mints were of equally fine workmanship. Identification of the prototype is made the more difficult because none of these issues has survived in quantity. The three other coins of the moneyer Ælhus of this reign (BLS Cn 91-3) have busts which take their form from the Canterbury coinage, although in two cases the larger proportions of the Carolingian bust have been retained.

NORTHAMPTON, near
These two coins were found in 1985 by a metal-detector user a few miles south west of Northampton (site recorded confidentially). When discovered, they were adhering tightly to one another, reverse to reverse, held together by corrosion products or partially fused by heat. It soon became clear that attempts to separate them physically were likely to result in one of the coins breaking up. Through the good offices of Miss M. M. Archibald, the expert advice of Mr Keith Howes of the British Museum was sought, but he was unable to part them. Our final resort was to an X-ray photograph of the pair, taken by Miss Julie Dawson, Assistant Keeper in Conservation at the Fitzwilliam Museum, and this enabled us to identify the moneyer of one of the coins.

*49. Edward the Elder, Two-line type, later group, c. 915-24 (BMC ii; North 649). Moneyer Osceor (=Osgear?).  
Obv. +EADVVEARD REX  
Rev. OSEAR / M Ó, divided by three crosses, three pellets above and below?  
Combined weight of the two coins: 2.59g (40.0gr.). Die-axis: 270°.  
The reverse type and moneyer’s name are clear from the enlarged X-ray photograph (pl. 2, no. 49). A coin with a similar inscription was present in the Vatican hoard.  

*50. Athelstan, Two-line type or Two-line/Cross mule, c. 925-28 (BMC i or i/v; North 668 or 668/672). Mint and moneyer uncertain.  
Obv. +ÆBELSTAN REX  
Rev. not visible.  
The obverse, with the simple title rex, is of the Two-line type, and the die is of ‘London’ style though the coin is not necessarily of that mint. There is no sign of a Two-line reverse inscription on the X-ray photograph, which could be because the design was in lower relief or more corroded than that of the other coin. Alternatively, it may be a circular inscription of a Two-line/Cross mule, which cannot be distinguished on the X-ray from the two obverse inscriptions that are superimposed on it. Mr Blunt dates the Two-line type at southern mints to the early years of Athelstan’s reign, so the coins were probably lost c. 930 ± 5 years.

NORWICH region, Norfolk
This coin was purchased by Mr C. E. Blunt from A. H. Baldwin and Sons Limited in 1982. It was said to have been a recent metal-detector find from the Norwich region. Mr Blunt has most generously invited us to publish it here.

*51. Eadwald of East Anglia, c. 796-800, Three-line/Cross-in-quatrefoil type (BLS Ea1; North 432).  
Uncertain East Anglian mint, moneyer Eadnoth.  
Obv. EADWALD/REX (I inverted), inscription in three lines divided by pelleted bars.

22 BLS, p. 33.  
Rev. E/AD/N/OD (N retrograde), inscription in the quarters of a pelleted cross, within a solid quatrefoil border.
Weight: 1.31g (20.2gr.). Die-axis: 270°.
This is one of only seven recorded coins of Eadwald of East Anglia (see discussion of the Thetford region find, no. 66 below). It is struck from the same dies as BMC 3 and SCBI Mack 673. It is unusual in this period to find three coins struck from the same pair of dies, although there are precedents such as the three coins of Æthelberht of East Anglia (d. 794).

OSBALDWICK, near, N. Yorks

Found in 1983 near Osbaldwick, a village three miles east of York on the border of the North and East Riding (site recorded confidentially).

*52. Cnut, Short Cross type, c. 1030–36 (Hild. H; North 790). York, moneyer Fa;rthein.
Obv. +CNVT/-RECX:
Rev. + F/ERBEIN ON EOFE
Weight: not recorded. Die-axis: reported as 230°.
Same dies as SCBI Copenhagen iiiA 616–17.

PADSTOW, Cornwall

This coin was found in December 1984 by Mr Lionel McCarthy using a metal detector on a ploughed field on the outskirts of Padstow, a quarter of a mile from the Camel estuary (site recorded confidentially). Mr McCarthy kindly lent us the coin for study.
Although there are three hoards of Anglo-Saxon coins from Cornwall (Trewiddle, dep. c. 868; Tywardreath, dep. c. 930; and Constantine, dep. c. 1020), all from the south coast, single-finds are notably rare. That from Mawgan Porth (no. 46 above) is from a north coast site, as is this one from Padstow. Cornwall was sparsely populated compared with other south-western counties, but many inland settlements are recorded in the Domesday survey. The county could not support a regular mint, and one wonders whether the essentially Celtic population was slow to adopt the use of coin. Some of the finds may have been brought by coastal travellers or raiders, as was the case in Wales. We know, for example, that St Peter’s monastery at Padstow was sacked by the Vikings in 981 and that the Cornish coast was ravaged in 997, while ships travelling from Dublin to southern England would have followed the Cornish coast.

*53. Æthelred II, Long Cross type, c. 997–1003 (Hild D; North 774). Chichester, moneyer Æthestan.
Obv. +ÆDELRE/Ð/REX ANGLOX
Rev. +ÆÆSTÁ/NM'0/CISE
Weight: 1.56g (24.1gr.). Die-axis: 0°.

ROXTON, Beds.

Found in June 1984 at Roxton, between Sandy and St Neots (site recorded confidentially). The site has also yielded Roman and later medieval coins, including an Irish cut-halfpenny of Henry III.

Obv. +PILLELM REX
Rev. +GFODRIC ON ST/ÆFR
Weight: 1.24g (19.1gr.). Die-axis: 180°.
The coin is a die-duplicate of BMC 980.

ST DAVID’S HEAD (Whitesand Bay), Pembroke (Dyfed)

This coin was found in September 1985 by Ms A. Lewis and A. W. Bartlett at the top of the beach at Whitesand Bay (Porth Mawr), which sweeps south from St David’s Head. It had presumably fallen from an eroded cliff, rather than been washed up from the sea. The report in Treasure Hunting (April 1986, p. 13) to the effect that several coins of Eadred had been found was, we understand, an editorial error and there was only this one coin.

Finds of Anglo-Saxon coins from Wales are scarce, and they have all come from near the coast, stretching in the south from St David’s Head to Caerwent in the Bristol Channel, and in the north-west and north from Anglesey to Ormes Head and Rhuddlan. They have been seen as the product of Viking contact along the two trade routes from Dublin to south-west and north-west England. The new find from a beach facing the southern tip of Ireland fits that pattern, and the fact that it should be a coin from north-west England adds support to the argument that it is likely to have been carried there by the Vikings. It may even have seen some years of circulation in Dublin, before being brought to Wales.

*55. Edmund (939-46) or Eadred (946-55), Two-line type (HR1; North 691 or 707). North-western mint, moneyer Sigar.

Obv. }DR[ Rev. (rosette)/siiGA[+]/+RES M[ ]

Weight: not recorded, fragment.

This is a coin of either Edmund (EadmunD Rex) or Eadred (EaDReD Rex). Unfortunately the letter before the DR is obscured by corrosion. While the wide spacing of the letters might favour an attribution to Eadred, this is not conclusive. The moneyer, Sigar(es), is well attested for this north-western variety in both reigns. Mr Blunt has informed us that he knows of three specimens for Edmund and ten for Eadred, but none of them has this reverse inscription with double i and a curious letter or symbol at the end of the top line. This character, which has the form of a curve ending in a wedge, has so far defied interpretation. It is unlikely to be a round S on its face since the usual angular form occurs elsewhere in the legend, and anyway another letter in this position would appear to be superfluous. Could it be an ornamental stop? Mr Blunt comments that otherwise the coin appears to be a perfectly regular issue.

ST IVES, Hunts. (Cambs.)

This coin was found in autumn 1984 in gravel workings half a mile east of St Ives.

*56. French feudal, county of Penthievre, Stephen I (1093-1138) or later (Poey d’Avant vols. 1430-49). Guincamp?


Stephen I was the first count of Penthievre to strike coins, and the designs and inscriptions of these were immobilized by later rulers down to the early thirteenth century. This coin is not of the finest style and it is unlikely to be very early in the series, but no satisfactory chronological arrangement of this coinage has yet been devised. It is possible that there were other mints in the county besides the original one at Guincamp.

ST NEOTS, Hunts. (Cambs.)

This coin was found in St Neots in 1961 by Mr C. Daines when the area to the south of Cambridge Road (A45) by Fox Brook was being cleared for building development (NGR TL18846020). The find was published in 1973 in an article on Saxon St Neots by Peter Addyman, based on an identification by Michael Dolley, but it was not then illustrated. Mr Daines, who still has the coin, has kindly allowed us to reproduce photographs of it here.


Obv. +CNVT R/EC+ AN
Rev. +SPERT ON STANFO:

Weight: 1.08g (16.7gm.). Die-axis: not recorded.

SCUNTHORPE region, Lincs. (S. Humberside)

This coin, which was purchased from the finder at a coin fair in York in September 1982, was said to have been found in the Scunthorpe area. It was recorded by Mr John Sadler in the Ipswich Numismatic Society Notes 5 (1983-85), 15.


Obv. +IIIIRCV[S] RE Rev. +BRVNNC ON LVN (NC ligatured)

Weight: 1.32g (20.4gr.). Die-axis: 0°.

Mr Sadler points out that it is struck from the same dies as Spink sale no. 6 (11 October 1979), lot 497 (ex Lockett 1044), and from the same reverse die as SCBI Stockholm, Anglo-Norman.

SHIPTONTHORPE, near, E. Yorks. (N. Humberside)

Found in March 1985 near Shiptonthorpe, north west of Market Weighton.


Obv. [TE[ Rev. [R]

Cut-farthing. Weight: not recorded.

SHRUBLAND HALL, near Coddenham, Suffolk

Found with a metal detector on 14 March 1982 at Shrubland Hall, between Coddenham and Barham, north of

27 P. V. Addyman, ‘Late Saxon settlements in the St
Ipswich. This coin was published in the Ipswich Numismatic Society Notes 5 (1983–85), 11–12, and it is cited here by courtesy of John Sadler.

*60. Edward the Martyr, Reform Small Cross type, 975–78 (Hild. A; North 763). York, Gu(nnulf)?

Obv. [ ]RD REX AN[ ]
Rev. +GV[ ]O EFER
Cut-halfpenny. Weight: 0.62g (9.6gr.). Die-axis: 180°.

Only the first two or possibly three letters of the moneyer’s name are included on this cut half. Mr Sadler interpreted them as +isv... for Isulf, with the first two letters joined at their bases. As he admitted, however, there would be problems in spacing the remainder of the legend...LFM..., over the missing half of the coin, and this must surely preclude Isulf as a possibility. The first letter is more probably a square G with the top horizontal merging into the edge, and the moneyer is likely to be Gunnulf or Gunnolf, who is recorded at York for Reform Small Cross coins of Edgar (Grantley 1098; ex Montagu 735) and Edward the Martyr (SCBI Glasgow 767). The Glasgow coin is from different dies, but it shows that the remainder of the legend would fill half a coin.

SIX HILLS, near, Leics.

Found in September 1985 on a ploughed field near the Fosse Way, in the region of Six Hills, north Leicestershire (site recorded confidentially).

*61. ‘Porcupine’ sceat (Series E), ‘plumed bird’ variety, Metcalf class K (BMC type 6), c. 700–10. Lower Rhineland.

Obv. ‘plumed bird’ right, with large claws, pellets in the field, a long cross before the head, and a half circle of pellets at edge of coin.
Rev. ‘standard’, decorated with a pelleted annulet, four horizontal bars, and two groups of three pellets almost in a row. In the outer border a cross and several pellets are visible on two sides.

Weight: 1.09g (16.8gr.).

Struck from the same obverse die as BMC 73, and from a very similar though different reverse die. Metcalf thought that BMC 73 stood early in the sequence of ‘plumed bird’ dies.28

*62. ‘Porcupine’/‘Stepped cross’ sceat (BMC 53), c. 710–20. Lower Rhineland or Frisia?

Obv. ‘porcupine’, with the curved ‘back’ turning over in a point and containing a v shape detached from the curve. There is one pellet within the v and an annulet and a pellet below it. To the right, at the edge of the coin, there is a curly line.
Rev. four pairs of ‘stepped’ lines radiating from a pelleted annulet, within an inner circle and an outer dog-tooth border consisting of a zig-zag line and pellets.

Weight: 1.08g (16.7gr.).

This is the eighth specimen of type 53 to be recorded. The six coins of which illustrations are available are related not only by their distinctive reverse type, but by a common obverse design the key elements of which are a v containing a pellet within the curve of the ‘porcupine’, an annulet and a pellet below it, and a pelleted or curly line to the right of the flan. The right-hand stroke of the v, and occasionally the left one also, is detached from the curve. This particular combination of symbols on the obverse does not, so far as we can judge, occur elsewhere in the ‘porcupine’ series. However, the differences of detail and style suggest that the dies of type 53 were cut by several different hands and/or over a longish period.

The recorded coins may be listed as follows:

a) Without additional reverse ornaments
(1) BMC 199; possibly found at Thanet before 1756 (BMC pl. 4, no. 19). Weight: 1.05g. Neat work; reverse with narrow limbs to voided cross ending in parallel lines; inner circle of pellets; narrow dog-tooth pattern in outer border. [pl. 3, no. 62a]
(2) Six Hills find. Looser work; both limbs of v detached from curve and long pointed end to the curve. Voided cross on reverse is wider with splayed ends; inner circle as solid line; broad dog-tooth pattern in border.

b) With cross in one quarter of reverse
(3) Emden Museum; ex Barthe hoard 1838 (illus. D. Hill’s ‘Sceatta project’ archive no. ELM 694). Weight 1.28g. Tight voided limbs to cross, splayed ends; inner circle of pellets; outer border of hatched lines changing to narrow dog-tooth.

c) With pellets on limbs of cross and in quarters of reverse
(4) Bibliothèque nationale; ex Cimiez hoard 1851 (illus. Le Gentilhomme, BNJ 24 (1944), pl. 3, no. 39). Weight 1.20g. Neat work; broad voided cross with splayed ends; inner circle of pellets; outer border not visible. [pl. 3, no. 62b]
(5) Zeeuws Museum, Middleburg; found at Domburg (illus. Dirks, RBN 1870, pl. F, no. 16). Looser

28 Metcalf, ‘A stylistic analysis’, p. 196 n.3, and pl. XV. no. 16.
work; voided cross with splayed ends, two pellets on each limb and up to three pellets in each quarter; inner circle and outer border not visible. [pl. 3, no. 62c]

(6) Ashmolean Museum, Oxford; ex Grantley 712 (illus. Metcalf et al., Studies in the Compositions of Early Medieval Coins (Newcastle, 1968), no. 0.44). Weight 1.10g. Similar to 4, but pellets in rev. quarters only.

d) Not illustrated

(7) Domburg find (Op den Velde, de Boone, and Pol, p. 141).

(8) Find from near Witnesham, Suffolk (Rigold and Metcalf, 'A revised check-list', p. 266).

The obverse design of type 53 owes most of its inspiration to Metcalf class G, though it is probably a little later in date to judge by its absence from the Bais and Aston Rowant hoards, deposited c. 710, and its presence in the Cimiez hoard of c. 720.

SOUTHOE, Hunts. (Cambs.)

Found by Mr P. Stanley using a metal detector on 7 December 1985 at Southoe, a village on the A1 just north of St Neots (site recorded confidentially).


York.

Obv. +CVN:NETI:-, small cross, pellet in second and third quarters.

Rev. (four? pellets) CNVTRE+, disposed in cruciform arrangement about an inverted patriarchal cross, pellet in each quarter of lower crosslet.

Weight: 1.07g (16.5gr.), chipped and cracked. Die-axis: 330°.

No die-links have been found with other published specimens. This is today one of the most common coins of the Anglo-Saxon period because of the survival of over 1,500 specimens in the Cuerdale hoard. Outside that hoard, however, they are very scarce, with just an odd piece in the hoards from Drogheda and Lough Ennell in Ireland, Harkirke in Lancashire, and Morley St Peter in Norfolk, and a few single finds such as those from Skeldergate and Coppergate in York. This appears to be only the second recorded specimen found south of the Humber. Finds of the longer lived St Peter coinage (cf. the Godmanchester find, no. 29 above) show that York coins did circulate to a limited extent in the southern Danelaw.

STOTFOLD, Herts.

Found in 1979 by Mr S. George at Stotfold, some three miles north west of Baldock.

*64. Stephen, Awbridge type, c. 1153-58 (BMC vii; North 881). Uncertain mint and moneyer.

Obv. [ ]FN[ ]

Rev. [ ]E[ ]

Cut-halfpenny. Weight: 0.52g (7.94gr.).

THETFORD, Norfolk

Found in August 1985 in Thetford on ‘Site B’ as described in the first article in this series.

*65. Runic sceat (Series R), c. 710-50 (North 157 var.). Uncertain East Anglian mint.

Obv. stylized bust right, with blundered ‘ep’ (?) in runes.

Rev. ‘standard’ decorated with an annulet, two bars, and two right angles; outer border of lines radiating from two corners and crosses on three sides.

Weight: 0.82g (12.7gr.).

The inscription is difficult to interpret, but is probably a blundered form of the moneyer’s name Ep. The fabric and degenerate style suggests that it belongs to the middle or later part of the East Anglian series.

THETFORD region, or more probably KING’S LYNN region, Norfolk

This fragmentary but highly important coin is said to have been found in the Thetford region, probably during autumn 1985. It was acquired by a private collector in East Anglia from an Ipswich coin dealer in January 1986, and made available for study through the good offices of Mr John Sadler. We have since learnt that the finder, who lives near King’s Lynn, sold it via an intermediary in Thetford, and that it is more likely to have been found in the King’s Lynn region.

*66. Eadwald of East Anglia, c. 796-800. Three-line/Cross-in-quatrefoil type (BLS –, cf. Eal; North 432 var.). Uncertain East Anglian mint, moneyer Wo(del)?

Obv. | [ ]DV[ ] |

Rev. PO[ ] (lozenge shaped O), inscription in the quarters of a pelleted cross, within a quatrefoil border.

29 SCBI Yorkshire Collections 25 (Skeldergate); E. J. E. Pirie, Post-Roman Coins from York Excavations (Archaeology of York 18/1; 1986), no. 40 (Coppergate).
Weight: 0.34g (5.2gr.), fragment. Die-axis: c. 225°?

This is the seventh coin of Eadwald of East Anglia to be recorded, and it provides a new moneyer for the reign. The six other coins are: three of the moneyer Eadnoth struck from the same dies (BMC 3; SCBI Mack 673; the Norwich region find, no. 51 above); a fourth coin of the same moneyer recorded by Grueber (NC 1894, 54n.) but now missing; one coin of the moneyer Lul (BM, from Richborough, Kent); and one of Wihtred (SCBI Glasgow 414).

The new piece is, so far as one can judge, of the same design as the coins of Eadnoth, indeed the obverse could almost have been struck from the same die as those, although on balance we are satisfied that it is from a different die. Of the obverse inscription, all that survives is the DV of EADWALD rex. There is a faint bar at 45° through the curved front of the D, also evident on one of Eadnoth's coins (the Mack specimen, but not on the others), as if it were intended to be a letter eth. It is likely, however, that this is a flaw which had developed on Eadnoth's die and which was unthinkingly copied on this new die.

The reverse design of this and Eadnoth's coins differs slightly from that of Lul's coin, which has four rosettes in the border outside the quatrefoil, and is quite different from Wihtred's Celtic cross pattern. Two letters of the inscription are present, p and a lozenge shaped o. They are unlikely to be a blundering of EADNOD, since the dies are generally very literate, and were this the work of one man it is possible that he also served as a moneyer for King Eadwald. However, the new coin does not appear to be struck by Wihtred, for the p is very clear and there is no hint of a lower curve that would make it into a B. The most likely attribution for this coin is to the moneyer Wodel, who is known from coins of Coenwulf and Ceolwulf. On Coenwulf's coins his name is disposed in the angles of an ornate cross, the inscription commencing in the first angle with a p and a lozenge shaped o as on the Eadwald fragment. Wodel may indeed have been the successor to Eadnoth, and this could explain their sharing a common coin design, for at the East Anglian mint designs were often personal to particular moneyers.

Coenwulf's East Anglian coinage has been divided into two phases, the first comprising the coins of the moneyer Lul and the second those of the other moneyers including Wodel and Wihtred. However, this arrangement seems open to question, since the use of individual designs by moneyers and the variety of die-cutting styles makes it very difficult to establish a relative chronology. If simplicity of style is regarded as an early feature, a coin of Wodel (BLS Cn 112) could well be contemporary with the earliest coins of Lul (BLS Cn 98).

Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>East Anglian moneyers c. 770–823</th>
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<tr>
<td>Witred</td>
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<td>Hun. . .c</td>
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<td>Lul</td>
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<td>Wihtred</td>
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<td>Botred</td>
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<td>Wodel</td>
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<td>Hereberht</td>
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UPPER DEAL, Kent

This coin was found c. 1964 at Upper Deal in east Kent, during work on the Sandwich to Deal road (A258). It was acquired by Mr D. S. Chick from a local antique dealer, who had purchased it from a man employed on the road works.


Of the four specimens of this type recorded by Blunt, only one (SCBI Cambridge 388; MEC 1:1125) has a simple pelleted line dividing the obverse inscription as here, although that has a different conformation of pellets in the field on obverse and reverse.

WENTBRIDGE, near, S. Yorks.

Two Anglo-Saxon, one Norman, and several later medieval coins were found in Spring 1985 near Wentbridge,
south of Pontefract (site recorded confidentially).

*68. Northumbrian styca, Æthelred II (North 188). Moneyer Eanred.  
   **Obv.** +EDILRED REX, cross and four pellets.  
   **Rev.** +EANRED (N retrograde), cross and four pellets.  
   Weight: 0.99g (15.3gr.). Die-axis: 270°.  
   This is a coin traditionally assigned to Æthelred’s first reign. Miss Pirie informs us that it is a  
   die-duplicate of a coin in the Yorkshire Museum.

*69. Northumbrian styca, blundered derivative (North, p. 47).  
   **Obv.** +V-LVHR:V, rosette of pellets.  
   **Rev.** +NIEIHVED (N retrograde), cross in circle of pellets.  
   Weight: 0.65g (10.0gr.). Die-axis: 180°.  
   The coin is contemporary with Æthelred II’s second reign or that of Osberht. Miss Pirie informs us that it  
   is from the same dies as a coin in the Yorkshire Museum. The obverse die is known to her in combination  
   with five reverses, and is itself one of three very similar dies. Coins with related inscriptions were present  
   in the Bolton Percy hoard.30

*70. William I, Bonnet type, c. 1068-70 (BMC ii; North 842). Huntingdon, moneyer Godwine.  
   **Obv.** +PILLEMV REX  
   **Rev.** +GODPINE ON HVI  
   Weight: 1.15g (17.7gr.). Die-axis: 0°.  
   From the same obverse die as SCBI Yorkshire Collections 1119.

Other coins from the site that have been shown to us are:  
   d. Edward III or later, halfpenny. Broken and chipped.  

WEST HYTHE, Kent  
Two coins were found in 1955 at West Hythe, a hamlet lying between Lympne and Hythe on the northern edge  
of Romney Marsh (site recorded confidentially). The coins, although found on separate occasions, were within  
a few yards of one another lying on the surface after the top soil had been stripped for horticultural use. Given  
their very close dates they may be presumed to be associated finds. Both coins were acquired by Mr D. S.  
Chick, who has recently re-contacted the finder on our behalf. He says that although he made repeated visits to  
the site during the last thirty years, latterly with the aid of a metal detector, he has not discovered any further  
coins there.

*71. Eadberht Præn of Kent (c. 796-98), Three-line type (BLS EP2; North 203). Canterbury, moneyer Ethelmod.  
   **Obv.** .EAD/BERIIT/.REX (HT ligatured), two plain lines dividing inscription  
   **Rev.** A/M/"/EPEL/"/MOD, two plain lines dividing inscription, pellets in field  
   Weight: 1.27g (19.7gr.). Die-axis: 0°.  
   The five other recorded coins of this moneyer have different ornaments in the upper line of the reverse  
   and different conformations of pellets in the field. The use of a decorative M on the reverse, originating  
   from Offa’s Three-line obverses, is also found on the Ashmolean specimen (SCBI Oxford 37) and BMA  
   157 flanked by crosses, and on the Lockett specimen (1st sale, lot 325) flanked by inverted TS. The form  
   on this coin with two As is paralleled on a coin of the moneyer Babba (BMC p. 67, no. 2). The annulet  
   at the end of the second line of the reverse is unusual and again seems to be decorative rather than part of  
   the inscription.

*72. Coenwulf of Mercia, Tríbrach issue, c. 798-800 (BLS Cn 8; North 342). Canterbury, moneyer Eaba.  
   **Obv.** +COENVVL F REX, around M (for Merciorum).  
   **Rev.** +E/AB/A, triple tríbrach moline, three small pellets at end of each limb.  
   Weight: 1.32g (20.3gr.). Die-axis: 225°.  
   The coin is from different dies to the other recorded specimens in the British Museum (BLS Cn 8) and  
   the Fitzwilliam Museum (SCBI Cambridge 990=MEC 1:1138, now considered authentic). Nor has an  
   obverse die-link been found with coins in the name of Eaba. Coenwulf’s Tríbrach coins were probably  
   issued before those of his brother Cuthred sub-king of Kent.

WHITTON, Suffolk

This coin was found on 27 March 1982 in a ploughed field at Whitton, now a suburb of north Ipswich (site recorded confidentially). It was published by J. C. Sadler in the Ipswich Numismatic Society Notes 5 (1983-85), 9-10.


Obv. +OFFA/REX/SÆT (side of left-hand triangle missing), upper and lower line of inscription in two closed lunettes.

Weight: 1.32g (20.4gr.). Die-axis: 0°.

Æthelheard’s coinage with Offa falls into two broad groups: an earlier one with the title pontifex, usually thought to ante-date his receipt of the pallium in 793, and a later one with the title archiepiscopus. His coin types are set out below, preceded by their Blunt numbers and followed in parentheses by the number of specimens known to us.

Pontifex
133 Circular (star)/Circular (star) (2)
134 Circular (cross chrismée)/Circular (cross chrismée) (1)
- Circular (cross bottonée)/Circular (cross crosslet) (1)
135 Three-line/Circular (cross crosslet) (2)

Archiepiscopus
136 Three-line/Three-line (6)
137 Three-line/Circular (EP) (2)
138 Circular (R)/Circular (EP) (1)

This is the second specimen of its type (Blunt 137), and it is struck from different dies from the first (BMC 23). It is, however, from the same reverse die as BMC 22 (Blunt 138). Moreover, the Three-line obverse of the Whitton coin is very similar to the two specimens of Blunt 135 with the title pontifex (SCBI Glasgow 392 and BMA 191). The use of decorative triangles in the upper line and the arrangement of pellets in the field is identical, indeed only after careful scrutiny can one discern that the three coins are from different dies. The decoration on the obverses of type 136, on the other hand, is somewhat different; most have pellets in the upper line and the few with triangles have a different arrangement of pellets elsewhere on the die. This suggests that types 137 and 138, with Circular reverses, are earlier than type 136, with a Three-line reverse. It also follows that when Æthelheard recommenced issuing coins under Coenwulf after a two year absence from his see, by using a variant of the Circular (EP) reverse he would have been harking back not to his last coin issue but to the penultimate one.

What is puzzling is why both Three-line and Circular obverse dies should have been used interchangeably in the middle of his coinage, for the Circular obverses appear to be intended to pair with the Circular reverses. The Three-line obverse was the standard type for the secular coins, so it is possible that the archiepiscopal moneyer(s) was occasionally issued with a secular obverse die. Alternatively, the ecclesiastical coins may have been struck at a workshop which also produced secular coins, and the workmen felt free to use any obverse dies they had for the ecclesiastical coinage. The obverse die-link between a coin of Archbishop Jaenberht and one of Offa’s light coinage by the moneyer Ethelnoth suggests that there were shared workshops, and it may be relevant that the only moneyers known to use dies with triangular decoration in the top line are Ethelnoth and Babba. Might the archiepiscopal moneyer(s) have shared a forge with Ethelnoth, or may Ethelnoth even have acted as both a royal and an ecclesiastical moneyer?

WYMESWOLD, Leics.

This sceat was found during 1985 in a field near Wymeswold, five miles north east of Loughborough (site recorded confidentially). The finder, a member of the Loughborough Coin and Search Society, sent a photograph to the Fitzwilliam Museum for identification and subsequently brought in the coin itself.

*74. Sceat, derivative of BMC 3a (Series G), c. 720? Origin uncertain, possibly Mercian or Middle Anglian.

Obv. diademed bust right, with hand resembling a palm leaf holding a cross.
Rev. ‘standard’ composed of two rows of pellets, decorated with X X/ O/ O X ; plain outer border.
Weight: 1.13g (17.4gr.). Die-axis: 300°.

This coin is related to an important group of imitations of Series G and J recently distinguished by

Metcalf, of which one example occurred in excavations not too far away from Wymeswold, at Repton. The triangular ear, large eye, straight diadem terminating in pellets, hair projecting forward, and spiky hand holding a cross are features also found in the imitative group. The closest parallels are with Lockett 214c (Ashmolean Museum, ex Carter collection), which also shares the unusual double outline to the 'standard' on the reverse, although on the Lockett specimen the pellets in the outer row are more widely spaced.

However, the Wymeswold coin displays a number of stylistic differences; for example, the spiky hand is cruder and much larger, resembling a palm leaf, the parallel lines of the arm are continued backwards until they touch the diadem, the face is smaller, the nose more modelled, and the hair more feathery. In some respects, therefore, the die-cutter has not understood the design. Dr Metcalf, who has kindly studied photographs of the coin, has informed us that he is inclined to regard it as a copy by another hand of a coin of his imitative group. This may well be so, though the imitative group is not so homogeneous in style that this could not be a further development of that series following after Lockett 214c, which seems to be the latest member of the group as so far established. We may hope that additional coins will be discovered that can shed light on the status and origin of the Wymeswold piece.

UNKNOWN FINDSPOT
This coin was acquired by Mr D. S. Chick from Spink in 1982 and was thought to have been a recent single find, although no findspot was known. The scarcity of coins of Beornwulf justifies its inclusion here.

*75. Beornwulf of Mercia (823–26), Portrait/Cross-crosslet type (BLS Be3; North 397). Uncertain East Anglian mint, moneyer Eadnoth.
Obv. +BEORNPVLF RE, bust right.
Rev. +EADNOPTMONET, cross-crosslet.
Weight: 1.07g (16.5gr.), chipped. Die-axis: 45°.
This is struck from different dies from the five other recorded specimens.

32 To be discussed by D. M. Metcalf in M. Bidlake and others, 'Coins of the Anglo-Saxon period from Repton, Derbyshire: II'. BNJ (forthcoming). We are grateful to Dr Metcalf for showing us a draft of his note.