

# Assessment of coin and jetons from

## Crossrail Stepney Green (XRV10)

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## 1 Quantification and assessment

### 1.1 Site archive: finds and environmental, quantification and description

*Table 1 Finds and environmental archive general summary*

Numismatica	1 coin and 3 jetons
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#### 1.1.1 *The coins and jetons*

The coin is a post medieval English piece. Of the three jetons, one is medieval French and another early post-medieval German whilst the third is illegible and of uncertain date or origin. All four are made of copper-alloy. The overall condition of all four is generally poor.

##### 1.1.1.1 *Introduction/methodology*

The coin and jetons have been conserved by Luisa Duarte and examined and assessed by Julian Bowsher. All of which have been processed in accordance with MOLA procedures, with the occasional aid of x-radiographs. Details of the objects are held on the MOLA Oracle database. A draft archive catalogue of the coins and tokens prepared during the course of assessment will assist future study and form the basis of the final catalogues.

In the following assessment report the finds are firstly discussed by period. All references in this assessment refer to accession numbers < >.

##### 1.1.1.1.1 MEDIEVAL – POST MEDIEVAL JETONS

The earliest identifiable piece is a Tournai jeton. Although the specific variation here cannot be found in the standard catalogue (Mitchiner 1988), it is of a well known series from the 15th century. The second jeton from Nuremberg, albeit copying a slightly earlier French type, from the first half of the 16th century. Although illegible – to the naked eye, microscope and x-radiograph – the fabric and thickness of the third piece suggests a jeton of the late medieval to early post-medieval.

Tournai and Nuremberg supplied jetons and tokens to wide areas of Europe – and the Americas in the post-medieval periods. They are very commonly found in London

and in Britain as a whole. They do not, however, circulate much beyond their, often broad, period of issue.

#### 1.1.1.1.2 POST MEDIEVAL

The English coin is a farthing of Charles II minted in 1671. Its poor condition cannot distinguish between two of the three 1671 types listed in the standard catalogue (Peck). Nevertheless, the piece is the lowest denomination within the English imperial system and is far from being uncommon.

#### 1.1.1.2 *List of objects for further cleaning*

No further cleaning is required

#### 1.1.1.3 *List of objects for photography*

None of the coins or tokens are of sufficient interest or condition to warrant photographs.

## 2 Analysis of potential

### 2.1.1 *Post Medieval*

#### 2.1.1.1 *Summary of potential*

There is a potential for the site in establishing a period of deposit within the history of the site. In stratigraphic terms, there is little potential. The one coin from the evaluation <87> has not revealed any stratigraphic discussion of its findspot – context [66]. The earlier medieval jeton <88> was found within modern disturbance caused by service piping and thus must be treated as unstratified. The illegible token <14> whatever its exact date, was clearly residual being found in a later 19th century fill. Only the Nuremberg jeton <16> appears to have come from a contemporary 16th century period.

## 3 Significance of the data

### 3.1 Post Medieval coins and tokens

#### 3.1.1 *Local*

Other than the record of type and date within this area, there is little local significance.

#### 3.1.2 *Regional and National*

Apart from comparanda, there is little significance within a wider area.

## 4 Method statements

### *General methodology*

The finds will be examined within their stratigraphic context using the computerised database (MsQuery), site plans, matrices and other information as supplied by the stratigraphic analysts at MoLA. The pieces have already been cleaned and conserved. Individual items may be examined again if any chronological refinement of the stratigraphy demands it.

All identifiable artefacts should be catalogued for archive purposes, building on the draft catalogue prepared for this assessment. It is proposed that the full numismatic catalogue is published in the report – though none are worth illustrating. A basic chronological narrative will be prepared, discussing groups of finds by period and land use in order to inform the stratigraphic analysts. It is expected that this will contribute to the main site narrative in the proposed publication where appropriate.

The publication catalogue of numismatica will be chronological, irrespective of its order of appearance in any site narrative, in order to give an overview of the assemblage. Specialist discussion of the material will address the function of the assemblage in terms of the site, with the results of research into specific objects. This can be used selectively in the publication as appropriate. The report will also discuss specific research aims to contribute to thematic discussions and will be ordered in the standard MoLA format.

#### 4.1 Publication sequence, task lists

##### *General*

##### *Task 1*

Preparation of coin report for publication.

## 5 APPENDIX – chronological catalogue of coin and jetons from XRV10.

### Coins

> Copper-alloy coin

<88>, [285] period , .

Tournai, c 1415–97; stock jeton. Diam 25mm; Wt 2.30g. Ax 6; Wr D.

Obv Lombardic legend AVE MARIA GRACI, shield of France bearing three fleur de lis, Rev Lombardic legend A VE MA RI, triple stranded straight cross fleuretty.

Mitchiner 1988, no exact parallel; but see pp 224–31.

> Copper-alloy jeton

<16>, [217] period , .

Nuremberg, c 1490–1550; 'ship – penny' jeton. Diam 28mm; Wt 2.19g. Ax 2; Wr D.

Obv garbled Lombardic legend based on VOLGUE LA GALLEE DE FRANCE, sailing ship I. Rev garbled Lombardic legend based on VIVE LE BON ROI DE FRANCE, four fleur de lis in a lozenge. cf Mitchiner 1988, 365.

> Copper-alloy jeton

<14>, [204] period , .

c 1450–1650; jeton. Diam 25mm; Wt 3.07g.

Illegible, though faint traces of ?design at one edge. Clipped, fabric and thickness suggests date.

> Copper-alloy coin

<87>, [66] period , .

Charles II, 1672; farthing. Diam 22mm; Wt 6.21g. Ax 6; Wr D.

Obv CAROLVS ·A· CAROLO, bust r. Rev BRITAN [NIA], Britannia seated r, 1672 in

ex. Peck 1964, 145 no. 519 or 521.

## 5.1 Bibliography

Mitchiner, M, 1988 *Jetons, medalets and tokens: Vol 1, The medieval period and Nuremberg*, London

Peck, CW, 1964 (2 ed), *English copper, tin and bronze coins in the British Museum 1558-1958*. British Museum. London,