

Notes and News

SOME ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS to J. D. A. THOMPSON, *INVENTORY OF BRITISH COIN HOARDS*¹

Mr. Thompson's valuable and useful inventory of the medieval coin-hoards found in the British Isles contains certain archaeological inaccuracies (as perhaps was almost inevitable in a book which ranges over such a wide field and deals with so much detail hidden, often, in obscure sources) and omits some relevant information. As this book is bound to be much used by archaeologists, a number of archaeological, as distinct from numismatic, emendations are set out below in alphabetical order of sites. It has seemed useful to list also some additional hoards containing material other than coins² which are omitted by Thompson. These are here distinguished by an asterisk.

Aberdeen 1 and *Aberdeen 2*. The same hoard, although there is another Aberdeen hoard which contained 1,800 coins and is dated to about 1330.

Aberdeen 5. Found in a small, handled pottery jug, about 6 in. in height.

**Ardleigh, Essex*. Coins with a pot and document of Henry V. Pot in the British Museum. *Proc. Soc. Antiq. London*, iv (1854), 98.

Aylesbury, Bucks. Found in the upper storey of a medieval building.

Ayr 1. Found in an earthenware jar.

**Ballylynan, Laoighis (Leix)*. A hoard, dated about 1050, was found here in 1786. The coins were found in an earthen urn. D. M. Metcalf, 'Find-records of medieval coins from Gough's Camden's *Britannia*', *Numismatic Chronicle* 6 ser., xvii (1957), 183.

Barham. This is one of the barrows on Breach Down and belongs to the grave-field referred to by that name.

Beaumont. Probably found in an iron-bound wooden coffer.

Beeston Tor. 1 gold, and 2 bronze, rings, some gold wire, a bronze strap-tag, and 2 silver disc-brooches were found with coins in a leather bag in a cave.

Brownlee. Found in a pot.

Caldale. This hoard is described and partly illustrated by [R. Gough], *Catalogue of the Coins of Canute, King of Denmark and England*. The 'fibulae' are apparently armlets and two of them and a horn are illustrated, *op. cit.*

Canonbie. There are four silver brooches (two are fragmentary).

Castle Lenigan. Found in a cow's horn.

Chanton. The same hoard as *Sullington*.

Chester 4. A pottery vessel was found with this hoard.

Croy. A complete brooch and fragments of two other brooches were found in this hoard.

Croydon. See J. C. Anderson, *Saxon Croydon*. Some of the silver fragments are in the Ashmolean Museum.

**Denge Marsh, Kent*. Coins of William I and Harold were found in a pot in 1739. Metcalf, *op. cit. s.v. Ballylynan*, p. 186.

Dornock. Found in a horn.

**Dover, Kent*. 300 silver coins, dated after 1205, found in a leaden casket in 1765. Metcalf, *op. cit. s.v. Ballylynan*, p. 190.

Dunfermline. The vessel was purchased from L. A. Lawrence by the British Museum in 1937.

¹ J. D. A. Thompson, *Inventory of British Coin Hoards*, Royal Numismatic Society, Special Publication, No. 1 (London, 1956).

² I am grateful to my colleagues Mr. R. H. M. Dolley and Mrs. Martin for help in the compilation of this list.

Durham, 1. The pot is still in the British Museum.

Fenwick. Found in a stone chest in the castle.

Fitful Head. The same as *Dunrossness*.

Flaxton. There was an armlet in this hoard, which has recently been republished, *Brit. Numismatic J.*, xxviii (1955), 16, fig. 4.

Halton Moor. Taylor Coombe records the survival of six gold bracteates.

Heworth. Found in a pot now in the Blackgate Museum, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The pot is illustrated by Thompson but not mentioned in his text.

**Higham, Lincs.* 250 coins, dating from about 1210, were found with two gold rings and a silver ring with an Arabic inscription. Metcalf, *op. cit. s.v.* Ballylynan, p. 192.

Kinghorn. The handled pottery pitcher, in which this hoard was found, is illustrated by Thompson, but not mentioned in his text.

Kirkoswald. A silver filigree trefoil ornament set with garnets was found in this hoard and has been in the British Museum since 1810. The reference to *Archaeologia Aeliana* is wrong, but see D. and S. Lysons, *Magna Britannia*, iv (London, 1816), p. ccviii and pl. opp. p. ccvii.

Leicester. The base of the pot in which this hoard was found is in the British Museum. Illustrated by Thompson but not mentioned in his text.

**London.* Coins of Aethelred II were found in 1836 in Honey Lane market. They were probably found with a scramasax (now in the British Museum), *Collectanea Antiqua*, II (1852), 243.

**London.* Coins of Edward I and Henry III were found with two vessels in Friday Street. The vessels are now in the British Museum. C. Roach Smith, *Catalogue of Roman London*, p. 114. The vessels are illustrated by Thompson (pl. iii, f), but the hoard is omitted from the inventory.

**London.* A hoard was found at Bucklersbury. It consisted of sixty-odd coins of Alfred and a pot. Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge, *Catal. of the . . . collection of . . . Coins, etc., formed by the Hon. Robert Marsham . . .* (sale, 19 November 1888).

Lough Swilly. The same hoard as *Carrowen*.

**Monasterboice, Louth.* Anglo-Saxon coins, dating from after 946, were found in 1748 with a number of fragments of *hacksilver*. Metcalf, *op. cit. s.v.* Ballylynan, p. 195.

New Luce. Found in the Glenchamber Bog, New Luce.

**Oakham, Rutland.* Anglo-Saxon coins, dated about 870, were found with silver and gilt(?) jewellery in 749. Metcalf, *op. cit. s.v.* Ballylynan, p. 196.

**Oving, Sussex.* 200 Anglo-Saxon coins were found with a pot and a silver disc brooch in 1789. They can be dated to about the time of the Norman Conquest. Metcalf, *op. cit. s.v.* Ballylynan, p. 198.

Portree. Found eight miles from Portree at Storr Rock.

Sevington. The 'R circular ornament' is gilt-bronze. There is one silver double-ended spoon and another similar object, with a fork at one end, with the other objects in the British Museum.

**Stratton, Beds.* 300 English gold coins were found in a pot in 1770. They are dated c. 1412. Metcalf, *op. cit. s.v.* Ballylynan, p. 198.

Sutton. The silver disk is certainly a brooch and is now in the British Museum.

Tarbat. Four silver ornaments, not two, were found in this hoard.

Thwaite. The same hoard as *Campsey Ash*.

Tetney. Found in a chalk container with two silver hooks. These objects are now in the British Museum.

Trewhiddle. The coins and other objects were found, not *in* the chalice, but in a heap of stones in an old mine-working.

Wedmore. A large fragment of the spouted vessel that contained this hoard is in the Castle Museum, Taunton.

Worcester, Lark Hill. Six rings and one brooch, not seven rings, were found in this hoard.

Wyke. Found in a pot. The reference in *Archaeologia* is to vol. xxviii, not vol. xxvii.
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MEDIEVAL INQUISITIONS AND THE ARCHAEOLOGIST

Only a handful of large-scale plans survive from the middle ages to afford evidence of local topography or of the character and position of single buildings. The archaeologist who looks for documents to elucidate some puzzling structure or topographical feature is therefore driven to written documents; the reverse process, beginning with documents and then moving into the field, is less commonly undertaken, and is perhaps a sufficient indication that the classes of document where detailed information may lurk are not well known among professional archaeologists.

It is obvious, of course, that any documents at the Public Record Office which are listed in the printed index to *Rentals and Surveys*³ will be informative about physical features which had an economic value; and the machinery of auditing expenditure by the Crown and its officers has also produced a class of documents, conveniently termed *Accounts*,⁴ which have been put to good use by the students of building—latterly (with great effect) by the alliance of historians and archaeologists concerned with the King's Works.

Economic interest or curiosity at the Exchequer was also responsible for the great class of feudal enquiries by which the Crown sought to have valued the possessions of its tenants-in-chief or in certain circumstances its sub-tenants. These *Inquisitiones Post Mortem* have been well calendared up to 1377 during the last half-century,⁵ and there are older *Calendars*⁶ of a more summary kind which bridge the gap before a modern series of calendars recommences in 1485. For the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, in particular, the *extents*⁷ which formed part of very many inquisitions *post mortem* are detailed enough to indicate the presence and sometimes the character of the principal buildings which lay on the demesne, from the manor and its precincts to the fulling-mill and the ferry-house. In those thousands of villages for which no manorial accounts have survived the extents may afford the only opportunity of learning the range of physical capital with which the countryside was equipped in these two important centuries.

Because of their close relation to the manorial system and to genealogical research the inquisitions *post mortem* have been known to some field-archaeologists.⁸ Much less well-known, because of their miscellaneous nature and disordered archive arrangement, are other feudal enquiries, equally economic in their motive and equally likely to throw a sudden burst of light on some minor topographical feature. A large class is that of *Inquisitiones Ad Quod Damnum*,⁹ each the result of an order from the Crown to hold a local enquiry to discover what loss to the Crown (if any) would result from some proposal put forward by a private subject or by a corporate body, lay or ecclesiastical.

³ *List of Rentals and Surveys and other analogous documents* (P.R.O. Lists and Indexes, xxv, 1908).

⁴ *List of Foreign Accounts* (P.R.O. Lists and Indexes, xi, 1900); *List of Exchequer Accounts, Various* (*id.*, xxxv, 1912), and other typescript indexes available at the P.R.O.

⁵ *Calendar of Inquisitiones Post Mortem* (Henry III to Edward III, 14 vols., 1904-54; Henry VII, 4 vols. 1898-1957); the inquisitions of the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, much more summary in their form, are indexed in P.R.O. Lists and Indexes, xxiii, xxvi, xxxi, xxxiii.

⁶ J. Caley and J. Bayley (eds. for the Record Commission) *Calendarium Inquisitionum post mortem sive excaetarum*, 4 vols. (1806-28).

⁷ The *Calendars* indicate whether there is an extent included in the document; only a small minority are printed in full translation.

⁸ The call-numbers for the documents themselves, if production of the originals is desired, range from C132 (Henry III) to C141 (Richard III). The file numbers are given in the *Calendars*. The older *Calendarium* uses a now obsolete system of numeration which needs a key, on the shelves of the Round Room, for translation.

⁹ This class has the P.R.O. reference C143.