Assessment of numismatica (jetons)

from

Charterhouse Square, London EC1

(XTE 12)

Julian Bowsher

Museum of London Archaeology,

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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	3 jetons

1.1.1 The jetons

The corpus comprises three 16th century Nuremberg jetons. All are of copper alloy and are generally in poor condition.

1.1.1.1 Introduction/methodology

The 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. An catalogue of the jetons 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 POST MEDIEVAL

The three jetons all come from context [335] which was an extensive but thin dumped layer over a metalled surface. The three jetons were all made in Nuremberg which supplied such pieces all over Europe s alternative 'reckoning counters' to state coinage. They are extensively found in London though these three are earlier than most. As stock jetons are undated they can be assigned rough dates. The earliest <51>, is an anonymous type with characteristically fictitious Lombardic lettering and must have been minted in the first half of the 16th century before individual rechenmeisters signed their own products. The second piece <52> was made by Hans Schultes II who became a

Rechenmeister in 1586, succeeding his father Hans I and died in 1603. The Schultes family produced four different Nuremberg rechenmeisters in the later 16th and early 17th centuries. Jetons made by Hans I are slightly more common in London. The third piece <53> is so badly preserved that apart from a 16th century date cannot be assigned a specific maker. However, there are traces of a Latin, rather than Lombardic, legend which indicates a date within the second half of the 16th century – or even the early part of the 17th – probably by the Schultes or other families. All three however, portray the very common rose / orb design produced in Nuremberg over a long period.

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 jetons 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

The three jetons provide a broad dating for the stratigraphic profile of the site.

3 Significance of the data

3.1 Post Medieval coins and tokens

3.1.1 Local

The presence of Nuremberg jetons in London is very common, though a concentration of these particular types within one layer of the site may be of interest. Jetons of Hans Schultes II are not as commonly found as those of his father.

3.1.2 Regional and National

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

4 Method statements

General methodology

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

Refinement of stratigraphic association.

Task 2

Preparation of coin report for publication.

5 APPENDIX – chronological catalogue of tokens from XTE12

Copper-alloy jeton
<51>, [335]; period ,
Anonymous Nuremburg, 1500-1550, jeton. Diam 24mm; Wt 0.99g. Ax ?12; Wr C.
Obv fictitious Lombardic legend]VO P BPMV : [, three crowns and three fleurs de lis, arranged centrifugally around a rose. Rev fictitious Lombardic legend]BVM BVM P [, imperial orb surmounted by a cross, all in tressure with three main arches. Due to its corroded condition, the jeton cannot be precisely identified beyond Mitchener 1988, 377-386. Corroded.

Copper-alloy jeton
<52>, [335]; period ,
Hans Schultes II, Nuremberg, 1586-1603, jeton. Diam 26mm; Wt 1.06g. Ax 12; Wr C.
Obv rosette, H[ANS : SC]HVLTES : NORNB :, three crowns and three fleurs de lis, arranged centrifugally around a rose. Rev rosette, HANS : SCHVLTES : N[ORNB], imperial orb surmounted by a cross, all in tressure with three main arches. cf Mitchiner 1988, 407 no.1388.

Copper-alloy jeton
<53>, [335]; period ,
Nuremburg, c 1550-1600; jeton. Diam 24mm; Wt 0.52g. Wr ?D.
Obv faint traces of three crowns and three lys. Rev traces of imperial orb within tressure.

5.1 Bibliography

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