

Crossrail Broadgate Ticket Hall (XSM 10)

Coin report

Only two coins were found at XSM10 over the summer of 2014. <794> from [1628] and <795> from [1500]. Both contexts are cemetery soils, associated therefore with the Bedlam burial ground of the 16th to 18th centuries.

The first <794> is a copper-alloy London trade token issued by Sarah Paggan of Dowgate in 1652. There is a great variety of these trade tokens issued by merchants, traders and shopkeepers from London and elsewhere, though Sarah's 'trade' remains unknown. They were commonly made between the years 1648 and 1672 .with a nominal value of one farthing.

The second, <795> also copper-alloy, is corroded and illegible though we are awaiting an x-radiograph which might reveal some details. Nevertheless, the size weight and fabric strongly suggests a low denomination post-medieval coin of, probably, the late 17th or early 18th century.

Both pieces therefore, are contemporary with the use of the cemetery and may even have been specific grave deposits. Such small change is found frequently in other contemporary London cemetery sites.

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