

United Kingdom

The Project

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| Name | <p>Corpus of Early Medieval Coin Finds from the British Isles, c. 450-1180 ('EMC') associated projects: - Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles database ('SCBI') - Checklist of Coin Hoards from the British Isles 450-1180 ('Checklist')</p> |
| Address | <p>Department of Coins and Medals Fitzwilliam Museum University of Cambridge Cambridge CB2 1RB United Kingdom Tel. +44 (0)1223 332915 www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/coins/emc www.medievalcoins.org</p> |
| Responsible | Mark Blackburn (mab1001@cam.ac.uk) |
| Supporting institutions | Fitzwilliam Museum and University of Cambridge |
| Start | 1996 (web page and on-line database from 1998) |
| Planned duration (ending) | Continuous; will be maintained and updated with new finds. |
| Where and how are the data available? | Available on the web, free access. |
| Organisation / structure | Financed for the first three years by the Leverhulme Trust, subsequently by the British Academy with grants mainly to incorporate the 45,000 coins catalogued in the <i>Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles</i> series. Regular maintenance is now done by the Fitzwilliam Museum staff. |
| Infrastructure | <p>Library: Fitzwilliam Museum, Dept. of Coins & Medals Library, ca.40,000 books and periodicals. IT: Museum intranet, with one server, two PCs and one scanner dedicated to the EMC project. Photography: We use a scanner for imaging coins.</p> |
| Budget 2004 | 18,000 Euro |
| Posts 2004 | <p>One part-time (50%) post, editing data. Two part-time (20% each), recording new finds, not paid for from project.</p> |
| History / development | <p>ca.1980-1996 Ad hoc recording of metal-detector coin finds by individuals and institutions. In Cambridge, Mark Blackburn and Mike Bonser specialised in Early Medieval coins, publishing them in a series of articles, 'Single-Finds of Anglo-Saxon and Norman Coin Finds' in <i>British Numismatic Journal</i> 1984-86. 1987 - British Numismatic Society established a regular section 'Coin Register' in the <i>British Numismatic Journal</i>, for anyone to record single-finds. 1996-2000 Leverhulme Trust awarded a major research grant to establish the Corpus of Early Medieval Coin Finds from the British Isles. One Research Associate (first J.C. Moesgaard, then Sean Miller) employed to develop a database and retrospectively enter data on all published single-coin finds (ca. 5,000). 2000 Addition to the web-site of the <i>Checklist of Coin Hoards from the British Isles</i> (www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/coins/hoards). 2000-03 British Academy funded the extension of the project to incorporate vols. 1-50 of the <i>Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles</i> (ca. 45'000 coins of period 450-1180). 2003 - Editing and improving existing data, and adding new finds as reported. Raising funds to add new groups of material, e.g. new SCBI volumes, new hoards, private collections, etc.</p> |

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| Specific interests | EMC is the national database for single-finds of Early Medieval coins from the British Isles. SCBI is the principal medium for publishing collections of British coins in British and foreign collections. Since 1958, 58 volumes have been published. Publication of volumes continues, but some collections or other groups of material not thought suitable or viable as a published volume will be put on the SCBI Database, and hence published on the web. |
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Data

What is taken into consideration?

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| Geographical | British Isles, including Eire. |
| Chronological | Middle Ages. |
| Type of objects | Coins and other numismatic objects. |
| Type of finds | Single finds plus some hoards, but not systematically yet. |
| Recorded information | Units / complex: ca. 500 hoards briefly recorded in summary form in the <i>Checklist of Coin Hoards from the British Isles 450-1180</i> (www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/coins/hoards). Individual objects: ca. 7,000 single-finds + ca. 45,000 coins in museum collections from hoards or without provenance. Publications on coin finds integrated. |

Type of recorded information

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| Units / complex | Based on original documentations (in museums and archaeological institutions) and on publications Checklist of Hoards: Findspot, date of finding, size of hoard, coin series represented (by category, e.g. Anglo-Saxon, Viking, Byzantine, etc.), container, associated objects, whether a grave find, literature. |
| Individual objects | Based on originals, on original documentation and on coin find publications: Single-finds and coins in SCBI Database: Findspot (with coordinates), date of finding, repository, inventory number, identification (ruler, type, mint, moneyer etc.), date range of production, date range of loss, literature, weight, die-axis, secondary treatment, condition, name of finder, find circumstances, associated finds, comments, date of recording and person entering data. |

Type of recording

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| Database | Microsoft Access for main database; MySQL and PHP for web-database and search engine. |
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Consultation and availability of the data

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| Online | www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/coins/emc |
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Services offered by the project

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| Identification of coin finds | For museums, archaeological services and private persons. |
| Publications | We offer to publish all coin finds in the 'Coin Register' of the <i>British Numismatic Journal</i> , unless they will be published by others. We will also offer to write reports on coins from excavations for inclusion in archaeological reports. |
| Other | Images of coins in the database. |

Co-operation

National with related sciences:

Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS), sharing data. The Fitzwilliam Museum co-hosts (with the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford) the post of Medieval and Early Modern Coin Adviser to the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

Archaeology Data Service (York) harvests our coin data and makes it available with other types of archaeological data via a general gateway called HEIRNET (www.britarch.ac.uk/HEIRNET).

Prosopography of Anglo-Saxon England is including our data for the names of rulers and moneyers (www.kcl.ac.uk/humanities/cch/pase).

English Place Name Society's Mint Name Project: is including our data in its database for the spelling of the mint names on the coins

Perspectives / Planning 2005-2010

For the own project: We would like to expand the project to encompass a detailed listing of coin hoards from the British Isles, but this would require major research funding to achieve. We would like to improve the mapping facilities on the web-interface, using GIS technology, which can probably be achieved as a special project in collaboration with people working on GIS. The SCBI Database side of the project will expand to include collections not yet catalogued. One major project under negotiation is the incorporation of some 45'000 English Long Cross sterling of the 13th cent. from the 1908 Brussels Hoard.

Co-operation with other coin find projects: We would welcome collaboration with similar coin find projects abroad, either to use a common gateway to view data and finds, or to share software.

Co-operation with related sciences: We expect to collaborate further with archaeological and historical projects, sharing data, as this is often a useful way of improving access to our data, expanding the audience and raising funds for software or data development.

Cambridge, 29.11.2004

Mark Blackburn

Publications

Recent Publications on British Medieval Coin Finds

ALLEN, M., « English coin hoards, 1158-1544 », *BNJ* 72, 2002, p. 24-84.

ARCHIBALD, M. M. – COOK, B. J., *EMCHI. Cross and Crosslets, Short Cross and Long Cross Hoards (British Museum Occasional Paper 87)*, London 2001.

BLACKBURN, M., « 'Productive' Sites and the Pattern of Coin loss in England, AD 600-1180 », in : T. PESTELL – K. ULMSCHEIDER (eds.), *Markets in Early Medieval Europe. Trading and 'Productive' Sites, 650-850*, London 2003, p. 20-36.

BLACKBURN, M. – PAGAN, H., « A revised Check-list of Coin Hoards from the British Isles, c. 500-1100 », in : M. BLACKBURN (ed.), *Anglo-Saxon Monetary History*, London 1986, p. 291-313. [See also updated on-line version: www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/coins/hoards]

BONSER, M. J., « Fifteen Years of Coin Finds from Productive Sites », *Yorkshire Numismatist* 3, 1997, p. 39-45.

COOK, B. J., « Foreign coins in medieval England », in : L. TRAVAINI (ed.), *Moneta locale, moneta straniera : Italia ed Europa XI-XV secolo – The Second Cambridge Numismatic Symposium. Local Coins, Foreign Coins : Italy and Europe 11th-15th Centuries (Società numismatica italiana. Collana di numismatica e scienze affini 2)*, Milano 1999, p. 231-284.

METCALF, D. M., *An Atlas of Anglo-Saxon and Norman Coin Finds, c. 973-1086 (Royal Numismatic Society, Special publications 32)*, London 1998.

'Coin hoards' section in *Numismatic Chronicle* (annual since vol. 154, 1994)

'Coin register' section in *British Numismatic Journal* (annual since vol. 57, 1987)

Treasure Annual Report (annual since 1997)

The Project

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| Name | Portable Antiquities Scheme ('PAS') |
| Address | Portable Antiquities Scheme c/o Dept of Coins & Medals British Museum London WC1B 3DG United Kingdom www.finds.org.uk |
| Responsible | Roger Bland (rbland@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk) |
| Supporting institutions | Headquarters in the British Museum, but funded through the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council with other partners (see annual report). The bulk of the money currently comes from a 3-year grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, to run out in March 2006. Archaeological services, museums, and local government authorities throughout England and Wales where the Finds Liaison Officers are based. |
| Start | 1997 |
| Planned duration (ending) | Current round of funding ends in March 2006. |
| Infrastructure | IT: PCs, website, and database manager. Photography: Digital photography for records and database. |
| Budget 2004 | ca. 60% of annual costs covered by the Heritage Lottery Fund: ca £850,000 (= ca 1,200,000 Euro). |
| Posts 2004 | 46 full-time posts. |
| Volunteers | Around 10 at any one time. |
| History / development | <p>The Portable Antiquities Scheme is a voluntary recording scheme for archaeological objects found by members of the public. Every year many thousands of objects are discovered, many of these by metal detector users, but also by people whilst out walking, gardening or going about their daily work. Such discoveries offer an important source for understanding our past. The Scheme was established to promote the recording of chance finds and broaden public awareness of the importance of such objects for understanding our past. The heart of the Scheme is its network of Finds Liaison Officers, who have a role in publishing the Scheme, recording reported finds, giving advice on finds recording, conservation and the Treasure Act, giving talks and lectures and encouraging liaison between members of the public, metal detector users, archaeologists and museums.</p> <p>This website provides background information on the Portable Antiquities Scheme, news and access to our database of over 102,000 objects and 33,000 images; from Prehistoric flints to Post-Medieval buckles.</p> <p>The Treasure Act All finders of gold and silver objects, and groups of coins from the same finds, over 300 years old, have a legal obligation to report such items under the Treasure Act 1996. Now prehistoric base-metal assemblages found after 1st January 2003 also qualify as Treasure. The website provides further information for finders of potential Treasure.</p> |

Data

What is taken into consideration?

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| Geographical | England and Wales (not Scotland or North Ireland). |
| Chronological | Antiquity, Middle Ages, Modern and contemporary. |
| Type of objects | Coins and other numismatic objects. |
| Type of finds | Hoards and single finds. |
| Recorded information | Units / complex: see website. Individual objects: ca 25,000 coins registered. |

Type of recorded information

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| Units / complex | PAS does not deal with published or previously recorded specimens. |
| Individual objects | Based on originals: Coins recorded are new finds by members of the public shown to Finds Liaison Officers. |

Type of recording

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| Database | |
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Consultation and availability of the data

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| Online | www.finds.org.uk |
| On demand | |

Services offered by the project

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| Identification of coin finds | |
| Other | Images of coins in the database. |

Co-operation

National with related sciences: Celtic Coin Index (Oxford), Early Medieval Corpus (Cambridge), Treasure Act hoard recording (British Museum) and others

Perspectives / Planning 2005-2010

For the own project: To secure continuing funding for the Scheme from government sources beyond March 2006.

Co-operation with other coin find projects: To act as a portal for projects recording new coin finds where appropriate.

Co-operation with related sciences: To advocate the importance of reporting and recording finds among the general public, and to promote their academic study.

London, 10.12.2004

**Jonathan Williams (British Museum) and
Ian Leins (Portable Antiquities Scheme)**

Publications

PAS Annual Report gives summary of year's activities.

Major finds are published in learned and popular journals.

The Project

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| Name | Iron Age & Roman Coins from Wales ('IARCW') |
| Address | Cardiff School of History & Archaeology Cardiff University Humanities Building Cardiff CF10 3XU United Kingdom Tel. +44 (0)29 2087 6538 www.cardiff.ac.uk/hisar/people/pg |
| Responsible | Peter Guest (GuestP@cf.ac.uk) |
| Supporting institution | Cardiff University |
| Start | October 2003 |
| Planned duration (ending) | October 2004 |
| If complete / ended: Where and how are the data available? | Currently being prepared for publication. |
| Organisation / structure | The IARCW project was funded by the University of Wales through the Board of Celtic Studies. A successful application for a grant from the Board led to the appointment at Cardiff University of a Research Assistant for a period of one year. The project was supervised by Peter Guest (Lecturer in Roman Archaeology at Cardiff University) and Edward Besly (Numismatist at the National Museums & Galleries of Wales), and was completed in October 2004. |
| Infrastructure | Library: University of Wales and National Museum & Gallery Cardiff libraries containing many books, reports and journals in which Welsh finds are most commonly encountered. Sites and Monuments Records offices also consulted for otherwise unpublished Iron Age and Roman coins, as were other museums in Wales and Britain. IT: Laptop computer, Cardiff University computer system, database designed and operated with Microsoft ACCESS, mapping and spatial analysis with ARCHGIS. |
| Budget 2004 | 32,200 Euro |
| Posts 2004 | Nick Wells, the project's full-time Research Assistant, employed on a one-year contract. |
| Volunteers | None |
| Project | Iron Age & Roman Coins from Wales |
| History / development | Before IARCW there has been no systematic attempt to catalogue ancient coins from Wales; those studies that had been undertaken were limited geographically or chronologically (or both). The development of databases and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) means that today it is a simpler task to catalogue coin finds and make the analysis of this information more widely available than was the case before the advent of the computer. In 2003 the Board of Celtic Studies' funded a one-year Research Project to catalogue the ancient coins found in Wales and prepare the resulting corpus for publication. The project's Research Assistant developed a database to record in detail the published and (where possible) unpublished Iron Age and Roman coins from Wales, linked to a GIS program to facilitate the spatial analysis of this material. In total, some 50,000 coins (the vast majority dating to the Roman period) were entered into the database during the project's single year. The data and a preliminary analysis of Iron Age and Roman coinage in Wales is currently being prepared for publication (as <i>Ancient Coins from Wales</i>). A website with a searchable GIS-linked database and hosted by the National Museums & Galleries of Wales is planned for the future. |

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| Specific interests | <p>IARCW is a research project whose purpose is to initiate and encourage the study of the supply, circulation and use of ancient coins from the western part of Britain within modern Wales.</p> <p>IARCW was intended to be exhaustively comprehensive rather than complete and the preparation of the database will mean that a vast body of data can be easily searched in a variety of ways. For example, it will be possible to study ancient coins from Wales by region, locality, ancient settlement or archaeological excavation. The detailed recording of 50,000 coins will enable the analysis of these objects by metal, denomination, emperor or ruler, mint, date of production or a number of other criteria.</p> <p>The intention is to better understand the production of coins (particularly by Rome) and the impact of coinage (especially Roman) on the diverse population of western Britain from the first century BC to the fifth century AD.</p> |
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Data

What is taken into consideration?

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| Geographical | Wales |
| Chronological | Antiquity |
| Type of objects | Coins |
| Type of finds | Hoards and single finds |
| Recorded information | <p>Units / complex: 157 excavated assemblages from 57 sites (7,470 coins), 189 coin hoards (34,195 coins) , 55 'groups' (uncertain if site assemblages, hoards, stray finds or collections – 8,541 coins) and 100 single finds.</p> <p>Individual objects: 50,306 individual coins.</p> <p>Publications on coin finds integrated.</p> <p>Other: Archive consisting of hard copies of all publications referring to ancient coins discovered in Wales.</p> |

Type of recorded information

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| Units / complex | <p>Based on original documentations (in museums and archaeological institutions) and on publications.</p> <p>Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location (with OS co-ordinates) of find Circumstances of find Find contents Publication or unpublished source |
| Individual objects | <p>Based on originals, on original documentations and on coin find publications.</p> <p>Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find Catalogue number Metal Denomination Issuing ruler or authority Reverse type Mint-mark Mint Date of production Size Weight Wear Current location Publication or other source |

Type of recording

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| word processing | Microsoft WORD |
| database | Microsoft ACCESS, ESRI ARCGIS |

Consultation and availability of the data

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| online | It is intended that the National Museum & Galleries of Wales will host a website based on the IARCW project in the future. |
| CD-ROMs | |
| in print | The project will be published as <i>Ancient Coins from Wales</i> (including the database on CD). |

Co-operation

National with other coin finds projects: With the British Museum, particularly on coin hoards.

International with other coin finds projects: Co-operation with other national coin projects, participant at *Coin Finds, Databases and the Internet* symposium at Frankfurt-am-Main (October 2004), member of the steering committee to progress INTERFACE (*Internet Portal: Finds of Ancient Coins in Europe*; see Germany, FdA, Frankfurt).

National with related sciences: Preparation of coin reports for numerous commercial archaeological units

Perspectives / Planning 2005-2010

For the own project: Publication of *Ancient Coins from Wales* in 2005/2006.

Co-operation with other coin find projects: Develop links with European national coin projects, both individually and via INTERFACE.

Exchange of publications and sharing of databases.

Cardiff, 30.11.2004

Peter Guest

Further publications

BESLY, E., *English Civil War Coin Hoards (British Museum Occasional Paper 51)*, London 1987.

MALMER, B., *The Anglo-Scandinavian Coinage c. 995-1020 (Commentationes de nummis sæculorum IX-XI in Suecia repertis, nova series 9)*, Stockholm 1997.