

COIN HOARD

Unique ID: SWYOR-7ED5A2

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Published

A group of 8 Post Medieval coins: a three pence of Charles II, two half crowns of William III, a half crown of Anne, a shilling of George I, and three shillings of George II.

All are official British coins, and will thus have been struck to the sterling standard, i.e. 92.5% fine metal. They range from the reign of Charles II in 1684 to the most recent coins, two shillings of George II dated 1745. These last are both in good condition with little wear, whereas the older coins shows significant wear, so it is legitimate to view the group as probably one batch deposited together in the mid 18th century, in or soon after 1745. The face value of the group was 11 shillings and ninepence, with a purchasing power equivalent in modern terms to something like £25 or more.

As a single group of material deposited in the mid 18th-century, the group is not eligible to be considered as Treasure under the terms of the Act. However, the older Treasure Trove procedures still apply in such cases. Of the three main criteria of Treasure Trove, this find is likely to be a single deposit made on one occasion, and is substantially of good silver. The less certain aspect is the purpose of the deposit. To be considered as Treasure Trove the coins need to have been deposited with a view to subsequent recovery, not accidentally lost or deliberately discarded. The latter is extremely unlikely, so a judgement has to be made as to whether the group was more likely to have been accidentally lost or else concealed with the intention of recovery.

It is possible that the find simply represents a lost purse. However, on the whole, 18th century silver hoards, even small ones such as this, are relatively rare things, probably because there were increasingly reliable alternatives to burying valuables for safety. It seems likely that only relatively poor people would resort to this expedient. Despite its relatively modest scale as a find, the contents of this find would certainly be plausible, therefore, as the savings of such a person. It is thus possible to make a reasonable case that the find might have been deposited with a view to subsequent recovery and that it might be considered as Treasure Trove.

Subsequent actions

Current location of find: Armitt Museum

Subsequent action after recording: Acquired by museum after being declared Treasure

Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2007T722

Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL

Period from: POST MEDIEVAL

Period to: POST MEDIEVAL

Date from: AD 1745

Date to: AD 1758

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 8

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Saturday 15th December 2007

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Other reference numbers

Treasure case number: 2007T722

Materials and construction

Primary material: Silver

Manufacture method: Milled

Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: [North West](#) (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: [Cumbria](#) (County)

District: [South Lakeland](#) (District)

To be known as: Skelwith

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From a paper map

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector

Current location: Armitt Museum

General landuse: Grassland, Heathland