New Dies for Elizabeth I 1573 Acorn Initial Mark Threepence's by Dave Greenhalgh (Grunal Moneta)

In The Galata Guide to Hammered and Milled Threepenny Pieces 1551 - 1662, published in 2016 by Galata Print, I recorded two legend readings coming from 6 obverse dies for the 1574 acorn initial mark threepence's designated DIG 1i to 1v and DIG 2. For the reverse three types from 11 dies designated Ai, Aii, Bi to Bv and Ci to Civ. Since publication another two obverse dies 1vi and 2ii and 1 reverse die Bvi have come to light. I will identify the new die pair 1vi/Bvi first.

I recently bought via facebook from a private collector (Luke Mundy) an exceptionally well preserved 1573 Acorn initial mark threepence. The coin had originated from Essex Coins and weighs 1.46gms.



Obverse

2

DIG IM Legend

♦ ELIZABETH: D.'G.' ANG.' FR: ET. HI.' REGINA

♦ ELIZBETH: D.'G.' ANG.' FR: ET. HI.' REGINA

Spink 2566, North 1998, B.C.W.

Colon after BETH, six dies.

Reads ELIZBETH two dies

AC-1

To differentiate the six obverse dies of DIG 1, note the position of the initial mark to the cross on the crown and the legend.

Illustrations taken from The Galata Guide to Hammered and Milled Threepenny Pieces 1551 - 1663

(unpublished update).



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Reverse

DIG I.M. Legend

A ♥ POSVI / DEV 'AD / IVTORE / M MEV.'

B ♥ POSVI / DEV.' AD / IVTORE / M. MEV.'

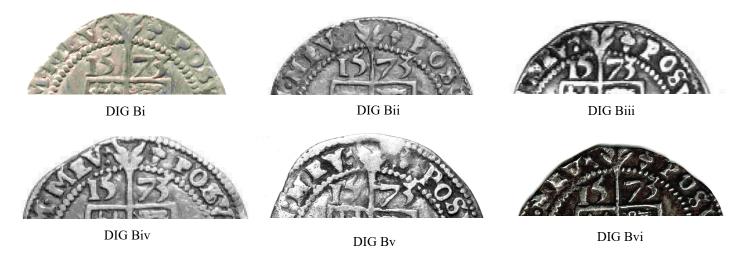
C ♥ POSVI / DEV.' AD / IVTORE / M. MEV.'

No stop after ADIVTOREM, two dies.

Apostrophe and stop after DEV, six dies.

--, rounder base to shield, four dies.

To differentiate the six B dies, note the positioning of the numerals in the date to the initial mark.



For the second new obverse die, noted on page one, this is a correction for the published Threepence book, which only records 1 die for type 2. On re-appraising the photographs I discovered that the Roger Shuttlewood obverse (RS 363a) was from a different obverse die to the other specimens reading ELIZBETH.

The Shuttlewood specimen has been re-designated as DIG 2ii and the others from DIG 2 to DIG 2i.

To differentiate the obverse dies note the position of the initial mark to the cross on the crown and the legend.



Illustrations Taken from The Galata Guide to Hammered and Milled Threepenny Pieces 1551 - 1663 (unpublished update). Initials used -

B.C.W, The Hammered Silver Coins Elizabeth I Galata 2006 updated 2016.

DIG ..., Catalogue entry in the Galata Guide.

Rn, Authors collection

RS, R Shuttlewood collection.