

A New Reverse Die For Henry VI Half Groat, Pinecone-Mascle Issue

By Luke Mundy

This week I acquired a wonderfully preserved Henry VI half groat from Essex coins, weighing 1.78g, from the Pinecone-mascle issue minted between 1422-30. It was upon closer inspection that I noticed a couple of die-sinkers errors that I began to try and find a die-match to this unique reverse die.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

Obverse Legend: HENRIC DI' GRA' REX ANL' Z F

Reverse Legend: POSVI DEVM:A D/C IVTOR EMEVR | VIL LA: C/saltires ALI SIE

David Greenhalgh's *'Galata Guide To Medieval Half-groats'* lists one known die-sinkers error, reverse DIG 2, as I over E in DIVTORE. **Fig. 2** displays a new reverse die for the Pinecone-mascle issue, with two new die sinking errors, and a new legend abbreviation. **Fig. 3** displays our first over-punch, with a C/saltire stops in CALI and it is likely that the die-sinker had punched the double saltire stops in the wrong place. It is interesting to see that the only known over-punch is within the same quarter in David's reverse DIG 2 legend, as well as the new reverse die seen in **fig.4**, but the new die has D/C in DIVTORE.

The further into my research of the new die, the more die-sinking errors I started to see. The outer reverse legend should read POSVI DEVM:A DIVTOR EMEVM, but this die was punched with a R, in MEVM, reading MEVR, as seen in **fig.5**.



Fig.3



Fig.4



Fig.5

Acknowledgements

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