

A New Mintmark for the Henry VIII York Halfpenny?

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One of the greatest bonuses of collecting coins is that every year new coins still seem to keep appearing after hundreds of years in the ground. It seems to be the case that if a coin should exist then it is probably does and it is only a matter of time before it gets dug up. The Henry VIII halfpenny described in this article is a good example. The Galata Guide to Small Change: Silver farthings, halfpennies and three-farthings 1279 to 1660 (Withers, 2023) lists the star, scallop and voided cross mintmarks for First Coinage Henry VIII (1509-26) York halfpennies. A Henry VIII halfpenny was recently discovered that has a pansy mintmark. (Figure.1) This mintmark should come as no real surprise as the pansy mintmark does appear on Henry VIII First Coinage York half-groats (Ashmolean Museum, 2024).



Figure. 1

OBVERSE ⚡hEn[RIC x DI x GRA x REX x AG]L

REVERSE [CIVI / TAS] / [EBO] / RAC[I]

⌚ Key right below bust

Weight: 0.41gm

References

Museum, Ashmolean. (2024, June 10). *Modern coin – HCR40969 Henry VIII York Half-groat*. Retrieved from Ashmolean Museum: <https://hcr.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coin/hcr40969>

Withers, P. & B. (2023). *The Galata Guide to Small Change: Silver farthings, halfpennies & three farthings 1279-1660*. Galata Print Limited.

