

Coins and Tokens

A Collection of Coins
and Tokens



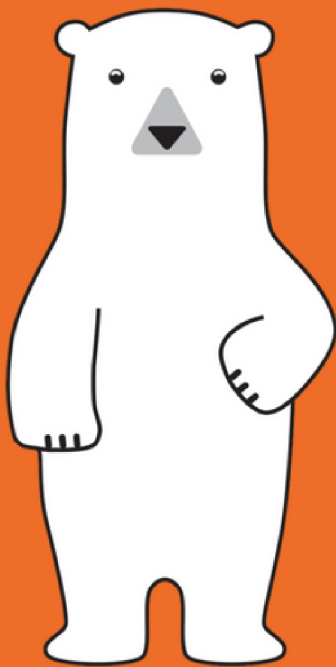
INTRODUCTION



Copper and Bronze Cumbria KMS 1979. 177

What were Tokens used for?

- Tokens were issued by local companies who were sanctioned by the local government. The reasoning for companies to produce tokens was mainly due to a severe shortage of money or the governments inability to issues its own coinage. The companies behind production of tokens acted as the regional bank.





1, A small hoard of 28 silver coins and leather purse

The hoard was found in an old house in Burneside, Kendal and consists of shillings (12 pence), sixpences, groats (4 pence), half-groats (2 pence) and a threepence. The coins were minted in the reigns of Henry VIII, Elizabeth I, James VI, Charles I and William and Mary.



2, Leather purse

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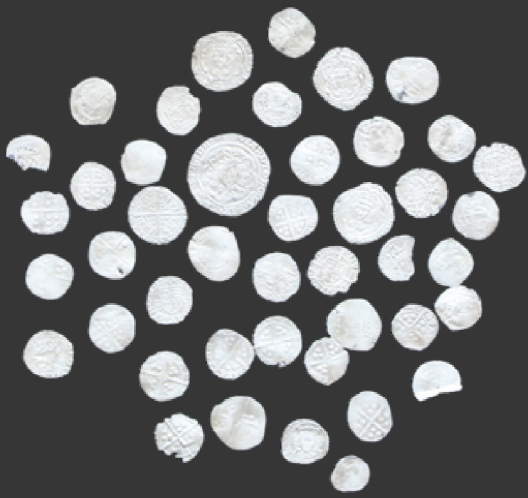
Metal UK 0033/94T



3, James VI Sword and Sceptre coin

This was one of the last gold coins to be issued by James VI before he became King of England in 1603. The coin is dated 1602 and would have been worth £6. The coin received its name from the reverse design of a sword and sceptre in a saltire cross. Two thistles appear on the coin and the inscription translates as 'The safety of the people is the supreme law'.

The coin was found near Sandgate School, Kendal and was probably dropped by someone on their journey to, or from Scotland by the Shap Road which was the main route to Scotland.



4, small hoard of silver coins and leather purse

The hoard consists of pennies, a groat and four half groats. They represent almost 200 years of British monarchy including Edward I, Edward II, Henry V, Henry VI, Edward IV, Richard III and Henry VI. The hoard was found near Grasmere in 1978.

Medieval.



5, Steel dies

These steel dies were used to
mint silver tokens issued by the
Kendal Mercers Company,
c1656.
Circa 1656



Mercers Company
Kendal 1657

6. 17th Century tokens

As there was one authorised copper coinage at that time, towns, and traders took it into their own hands to issue small change. Between 1648 and 1672 an enormous amount and variety of tokens were issued. They were mostly farthings and halfpennies, although some there were some pennies.



7. 18th Century tokens

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8. Short Cross Coin

Found near Sizergh Castle and on loan
from the National Trust