

Edward May Coin Collection: Culverton Farm



1. Bronze Sestertius of Antoninus Pius in honour of his wife Faustina whom he deified after her death in A. D. 141. Note the word 'DIVA', top left of first (obverse) image



2. Constantine 303 – 337 A.D. The second (reverse) image shows the twins Romulus & Remus, the legendary founders of Rome, being suckled by the she-wolf that raised them



- 3 & 4. Two coins of Crispus Caesar 317 – 326 A. D. created Caesar of Gaul by his father, Constantine, but later executed. The r-hand image shows two captives below a standard.



5. Constantius 348 – 358 A.D. The reverse has a horseman spearing an enemy.



- 6 & 7. Two as yet unidentified Roman coins



8. Cut Penny possibly Richard I: 1189 – 1199



9. Farthing: Edward I: 1272 – 1307



10. Penny: Edward I: 1272 – 1307



11. Groat (4p) Mary I: 1553 -1558



12. Penny: Elizabeth I: 1558 – 1603



13. Half-Groat (2d): Elizabeth I 1558 - 1603



14. Sixpence: Elizabeth I: 1558 – 1603.

The reverse of the Sixpence has the inscription 'POSUI DEUM ADIUTOREM MEUM' meaning 'I have made God my Helper'. Less modest is the Half-Groat, which calls Elizabeth 'ROSA SIN SPINA', a Rose without Thorns.



15. 'Rose' Farthing: Charles I 1625 – 1649



16. Two pence: Charles I, 1625 - 1649



17. Penny: Charles II 1649 – 1685



18. Five Skilling: Christian V of Denmark 1677



The Danish coin is of particular interest. James VI of Scotland had married Princess Anne of Denmark in 1589 and when he acceded to the English throne as James I he gave her the Manor of Princes Risborough. Anne died in 1619, but perhaps this coin indicates a continuing link with her homeland



19. Tin Penny: James II: 1685 – deposed 1688.



20: Tin Farthing, very battered: William & Mary 1688-1704.

Tin farthings were introduced by Charles II in 1684, partly to boost the Cornish tin mining industry, but also, being cheaper than copper, to increase profits at the Royal Mint. A central copper plug was a guard against forgery.



21. Farthing: William and Mary 1688 – 1704

Low value coinage reverted to copper in 1694 during the reign of William & Mary.



22. Shilling: Victoria 1837 – 1901 (dated 1865).



23. Coin weight for French Half-Ecu

Ref. 23 The coin weight, from c. 1500 A.D., was a way of checking that no gold had been pared from the coin.



24 & 25: Lead Local Trade Tokens 16th-17thC

Lead tokens were issued instead of coinage by employers from the 13thC until the reign of Elizabeth I



26. Fleur-de-lis Trade Seal (unidentified).



27. Dutch Government Seal



28, 29 and 30: Weaver's Seals for attachment to bales of cloth

No. 28. marked by flower and – WICK. 29 with initials R T and 30 with scratched 'P' and '1822'