

The Robert de Hadeleie coinage

This work on the Robert of Hadleigh section was brought together by Mr George L.V. Tatler and based on a paper given by him to the British Numismatic Society in March 1974. Following on from this, Dr Robin Eaglen and Peter Woodhead made textual amendments and added pictures. This was then published in the name of G.L.V. Tatler in volume 68 (1998) of the British Numismatic Journal. Dr. Eaglen followed this up in his publication “The Abbey and Mint of Bury St. Edmunds to 1279”.¹ This work has stood the test of time and no new dies have emerged since his 2014 publication.

King Edward I came to the throne in November 1272 when the coins in production were of the voided long cross type. The last four issues of these coins, namely Classes 5h, 5i, 6 and 7, covering the period around 1272 to 1279, are now identified as the first coins of Edward I. It was not until May 1279² that a new coinage was issued bearing the name of Edward on the obverse and on the reverse the place where the coin was struck. No longer did the name of the moneyer appear on the coins either in the early stages from London, Canterbury and York or on those which followed quickly from Durham and Bristol. Bury St. Edmunds took no part in the early stages of this re-coinage and only returned to producing coins around mid-1280, during the issue of Class 3c.

Uniquely the reverse of the Bury coins carried the name of the moneyer, written in the vernacular as ROBERT DE HADELEIE or in the latinised form as ROBERTVS DE HADL with no indication of where the coins had been struck. We now know they were issued at Bury under the auspices of John of Northwold (Abbot 1279-1301). This situation only lasted for the period of 1280 to 1289 before Bury fell into line with the rest of the mints late in class 4. The moneyer's name was removed and replaced by the mint name. The classes issued during this period are 3c, 3d, 3g1, 3g2, 3g3, 3g local, 4a1, 4a2, 4a3, 4a4, 4b, 4c
Average weight of the coins in this series is 1.36g

¹ Dr Robin Eaglen E “The Mint of Bury St. Edmunds from 1279 ISBN 978-1-907427-37-4” page 11 CB, 72

² 1272-1281,331; Fox BNJ 1910,115,136

Pointers towards the identification of the RDH series classes 3c - 4c

Obverse legends

⌘EDW R`ANGL`DNS hYB = All classes with the exception of the two below

⌘EDW R`ANGL`DN hYB = 4c only (letter "S" omitted)

⬦EDW R`ANGL`DnS hIB = 3g3 local dies; plain initial cross; the Lombardic letters "n" replace the Roman form and the letter I replaces the letter Y

Reverse legends

ROBE / RTV / SDEh / ADL` = Class 3c;

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE = Class 3c; 3d; 3g1; 3g2; 3g3; (3g local dies); 4a4; 4b; 4c

ROBE / RTVS / DEh / ADL` = Class 4a1; 4a2; 4a3

The different inscriptions seen on the coins are included in the die link charts.

Both the die numbers, and the die lettering are identical to that published by Dr. Eaglen in his 2014 Bury Mint publication. The number after R.E. is Dr Eaglen's reference number, this is followed by number in brackets e.g., (3) these are the number of coins currently recorded from these dies.

Crowns

Standard features are the trifoliate crown and arrowhead ornaments (jewels)

Trifoliate crown with marginal spread to side fleurs; arrowhead jewels and tall well formed central fleur-de-lie; plain band to the crown; seen on classes 3c, 3d,



Trifoliate crown with well spread side fleurs; small arrowhead jewels and tall well formed central fleur-de-lie; plain band to the crown; seen on classes 3g1– 4b, the occasional 4b die crown has less spread side fleurs.



A somewhat cruder crown with little spread to the side fleurs; jewels resembling blunt spear heads that are attached directly to the plain band of the crown; small nick at the top of the left band of the crown, between the left jewel and the left side fleur (not clear on this example); seen class 4c only.



Initial cross

Thin armed cross potent, seen on all classes other than the two to the right



Thicker arms to the cross potent, only seen on the one obv die of 4a3 (RE 377)



Distorted plain cross unique to class 3 local die only



Hair

Bushy, hair consisting of 3 curls with the central curl being the thicker, seen on classes 3c, 3d, 3g1, 3g2, 3g3,



Thick, almost featureless hair seen on class 3g local dies



Much shorter but still retaining a thick central curl, seen on classes 4a1, 4a2, 4a3, 4a4;



Long, with well balanced hair with balanced size curls, seen on class 4b



Long and less well defined hair, seen on class 4c



Drapery

Variations of and the associated classes assigned to them

The drapery is one of the most significant features used in defining the classes

Continuous thin band of class 3c that tapers from both left and right



Variation of the continuous thin band of class 3c that tapers from the right only



Thin wedges of class 3d, 3g, and 4a



Thicker wedges of class 4b with traces of a collar



continuous thick band of class 4c tapering toward the centre



Letter "S"

Composite letter "S" that is seen on classes 3c; 3d; 3g1; 3g2; 3g local dies



Variations of the letter "S" that have a large pellet or egg waisted centres that are seen on classes 3g3; 4a1; 4a2; 4a3; 4a3; 4b; class 4c has no letter "S"



Further notes

Only some of the features of the RDH series from classes 3c - 4c are listed. Other notable features are the different faces, chins, curly or wedge tails to the letter "R", straight or incurved uprights to the lettering; by using these, further subdivision of the classes can be achieved.

A standard feature of all these classes is the letter "G" that is always open (no closing bar) No coins are recorded from Bury for classes "e" and "f"

Comparison of the obverses of the RDH series 3c - 4c

Class 3c



Class 3c (with collar variation)



Class 3d



Class 3g1



Class 3g2



Class 3g3



Class 3g3 Local



Class 4a1



Class 4a2



Class 4a3



Class 4a4



Class 4b



Class 4c



Die charts

All numbers and letter references in the charts correspond to those published by Dr Eaglen in his 2014 publication "The Abbey and Mint of Bury St. Edmunds from 1279" The number in brackets on the linking lines is the number of coins so far recorded from these dies.

Class 3c July - August 1280

✠EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB

A



Eaglen 354 (4)

ROBE / RTV / SDEh / ADL'

a1



a1-a2 are of very similar dies

Eaglen 355 (6)

ROBE / RTV / SDEh / ADL'

a2



Obverse (A)

Narrow face with pointed chin and long neck; hair with a thick central curl and finer inner and outer curls; single line drapery tapering in from each side; trifoliate crown (not particularly well spread); composite letter "S"; out turned tail to letters "R" and "h".

Reverses

(a1) Out-turned tail to first letter "R" and wedge tail to the second "R"; mainly incurved uprights.

(a2) Very similar to above die; the main difference being, wedge tail to both letter "R"s and the letter "O" is closer to the inner circle than in (a1); otherwise lettering as a1.

✠EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB

B



Eaglen 356 (11)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

b1



Eaglen 357 (12)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

b2



Obverse (B)

Shorter neck than seen in the first die of 3c; curved single line drapery tapering from right to left only; (not particularly well spread); out-turned tail to letter "R" and "h"; composite letter "S"; large contractive marks.

Reverses

(b1) Wedge tail to both letter "R"s and short incurved tail to letter "h".

(b2) Very similar reverse die to (b1) main differences are, letter "O" is further from the inner circle than on b1; 2nd letter "E" has different alignment to cross than on b1.

Class 3d c Autumn 1280

⌘EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB'

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

C



Eaglen 358 (9)



c1

Obverse (C)

Tall large face; deep neck collar and fine wedge shaped drapery; hair with thick central curl and finer inner and outer curls; trifoliate crown (not well spread); composite letter "S".
out-turned tails to letter "R" and "h"
(die feature) striation marks to the left side of portrait.

Reverses

(c1) Lettering as obverse; with the exception of the wedge tail to letter both letters "R"; short incurved tail in-turned tail to letter "h".

(c2) Lettering as (c1).

Eaglen 359 (11)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE



c2

⌘EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB'

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

T



Eaglen 360 (5)



t1

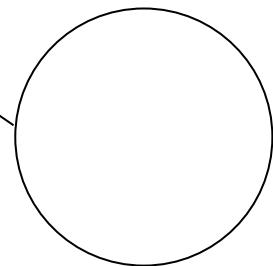
Obverse (T) Very similar to obverse die "C"; with a tall large face with deep neck collar and fine wedge shaped drapery; composite letter "S"; out-turned tails to letters "R" and "h".

Reverses

(t1) Lettering as obverse with the exception of wedge tails to both letters "R"; in-curved tail to letter "h" other lettering as obv.

No second reverse recorded.

No second reverse die recorded



Class 3g1 c Autumn 1280

✠EDW R'ANGL'DNS hYB'

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

F



Eaglen 361 (12)



f1

Obverse (F)

Larger portrait; thicker wedge shaped drapery; hair now with a thicker inner curl; initial cross potent; composite letter "S"; out-turned tails letter "R" and "h".

Reverses

(f1) Wedge tail to both letter "R"s and short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as obverse.

(f2) Lettering as in f1 above .

Eaglen 362 (5)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE



f2

Class 3g2 c Autumn 1280

✠EDW R'ANGL'DNS hYB'

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

E



Eaglen 363 (5)



e1

Obverse (E)

Large bust; wedge shaped drapery; hair with thick central curl, finer outer curl and small inside curl; well spread trifoliate crown with central fleur breaking inner circle; initial cross potent; composite letter "S"; large abbreviation marks; out-turned tails to letter "R" and "h".

Reverses

(e1) Wedge tail to letter to both letter "R"s and short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as obverse.

(e2) Lettering as in (e1).

Eaglen 364 (13)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE



e2

Class 3g2 continued c Autumn 1280

✠EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

S



Eaglen 365 (4)



s1

Obverse (S) Larger portrait; thick wedge shaped drapery; hair consisting of three main curls each side; hair three main curls each side; out-turned tails letter "R" and "h".

Reverses

(s1) Out-turned tails to both letter "R"s; short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as obv.

(s2) Lettering as in (s1) as above.

Eaglen 366 (3)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE



s2

Class 3g3 c Autumn 1280

✠EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

D



Eaglen 367 (35)



d1

Obverse (D)

Small face; thicker wedge shaped drapery; hair with thick central curl and finer outer and inner curls; small trifoliate crown; out-turned tail to letter "R" and "h"; egg waisted letter "S".

Reverses

(d1) Wedge tails to both letter "R"s; short incurved tail to letter "h"; pellet centre to letter "L" in "LEIE" otherwise lettering as in obverse.
(d2) See R/d2 below.

Eaglen 368 (5)

✠EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

R



Eaglen 369 (2)



d2

Obverse (R)

Slightly larger face; thick wedge shaped drapery; hair with thick central curl and finer outer curls; central fleur breaks inner circle; well spread trifoliate crown; out-turned tails to letter "R" and "h"; egg waisted letter "S".

Reverse

(d2) Wedge tail letter "R"s and short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as obverse.

✠EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB

U



Obverse (U)

Small pointed face; new hair defined by three plain curls; smaller wedge shaped drapery; egg waisted letter "S"; unbarred letter "A" tail to letter "R" and "h" unclear.

(very rare obverse die whose reverse is linked to the local obverse die).

Reverses

(g1) See below.

Eaglen 370 (2)

+EDW R' ANGL' DNS hIB'

G



Obverse (G)

Local obverse die; small face; thick drapery that is more reminiscent of that seen in class 4; thick almost featureless hair; small rather crude well spread crown; plain and slightly irregular initial cross; straight sided uprights; large serifs to lettering 'I' replaces letter "Y" in "hYB"; both letter "N"s are Lombardic; out-turned foot to letter "h"; curl to tail of letter "R"; barred letter "A"; letter egg waisted letter "S" open letter; E.

Reverses

(g1) curl to letter "h"; both curved and straight sided lettering to uprights; small curl to both letter "R"s; short incurved tail to letter "h".

(g2) Lettering as in g1.

Eaglen 371 (13)

Eaglen 372 (8)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

g1



ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

g2



Class 4a1 c mid 1282

✠EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB

ROBE / RTVS / DEh / ADL'

I



Eaglen 373 (22)



i1

Obverse (I)

Large rather crude face; wedge shaped drapery; hair consists of a large central curl, thin outer curl and small inner curl; uneven well splayed crown with blunt arrow head ornaments; egg waisted letter "S"; out turned foot to letter "R" and "h".

Reverses

(i1) Reverse reading now ROBE / RTVS / DEh / ADL ; Out-turned foot to both letter "R"s and the letter "h"; otherwise lettering as obverse.

(i2) Lettering as in (i1)

(die feature) "O" runs into letter "B" with the centre often seen filled in.

Eaglen 374 (16)

ROBE / RTVS / DEh / ADL'



i2

Class 4a2 c Autumn 1282

✠EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB

ROBE / RTVS / DEh / ADL'

H



Eaglen 375 (22)



h1

Obverse (E)

Thin face; wedge shaped drapery; less well defined small hair irons; smaller well spread crown with small central fleur; egg waisted letter "S"; interned tail to letter "h"; wedge tail to letter "R"s.

Reverses

(h1) Out-turned tail to both letter "R"s; out-turned tail to letter "h"; letter "S" as obverse.

(h2) Lettering as h1.

Eaglen 376 (11)

ROBE / RTVS / DEh / ADL'



h2

Class 4a3 c Autumn 1282

✠EDW R'ANGL'DNS hYB

ROBE / RTVS / DEh / ADL'

J



Eaglen 377 (14)



j1

Obverse (J)

Larger face, with more bushy hair and a distinct round chin; well spayed side fleurs distinct arrow shaped jewels; mixture of straight sided and incurved uprights to lettering; very large abbreviation marks; out-turned tail to letter "R" and "h"; with wedge ending arms; egg waisted letter "S" (die feature) broken left arm to initial cross.

Reverses

(j1) Out-turned tail to letter "R" and "h"; otherwise lettering as obverse

(die feature) letter "O" runs into letter "B".

(j2)

Lettering as in h1.

Eaglen 378 (16)

ROBE / RTVS / DEh / ADL'



j2

Class 4a4 c Autumn 1283 - early 1283

✠EDW R'ANGL'DNS hYB

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

Q



Eaglen 379 (12)



q1

Obverse (Q)

Large oval face; well rounded chin along with wedge drapery; thick well defined hair; trifoliate crown with well spread side fleur and tall central fleur that breaks inner circle; distinct arrow head jewels; initial cross potent; large abbreviation marks; unbarred letter "A"; egg waisted letter "S"; out-turned feet to both letters "h", and "R".

Reverses

(q1) Obverse now reads

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

wedge tail to both letter "R"s; short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as in obverse.

(q2) lettering as in (q1).

Eaglen 380 (10)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE



q2

Class 4b c Autumn 1282

✠EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB'

L



Eaglen 381 (9)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

11



Obverse (H)

Poor example with the majority of details unclear; large serifs; egg waisted letter "S"; out-turned letter "h"; wedge tail to letter "R".

Reverses

(11) Lettering as above; with the exception of a wedge tails to both letter "R"s; short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as obverse.

(12) Lettering as (11).

Eaglen 382 (5)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

12



✠EDW R' ANGL' DNS hYB'

N



Eaglen 383 (6)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

n1



Obverse (N)

Well centred neat face; neat hair consisting of three strands each side; crown not well spread; drapery with turned up collar that comes in with this class; egg waisted letter "S"; large abbreviation marks; wedge tail to letter "R"; curved tail to letter "h".

Reverses

(n1) wedge tail to both letter "R" short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as in obverse.

(n2) Lettering as in (n1).

Eaglen 384 (15)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

n2



Class 4b c Autumn 1282

✠EDW R'ANGL'DNS hYB

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

K



Eaglen 385 (6)



k1

Obverse (K)

Small rounded face with very rounded chin; shorter and more curved hair; thick wedge drapery; widely spread neat crown and clear arrowhead jewels; incurved lettering; large contractive marks; egg waisted letter "S"; wedge tail to letter "R".

out-turned tail to letter "h"; unbarred letter "A".

Reverses

(k1) wedge tails to letter "R"; short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as on obverse.

(k2) Lettering as in (k1).

Eaglen 386 (2)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE



k2

✠EDW R'ANGL'DNS hYB

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

O



Eaglen 387 (20)



o1

Obverse (O)

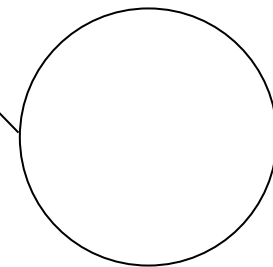
Mixture of straight and curved uprights; egg waisted letter "S"; out-turned tail to letter "R" and letter "h".

Reverses

(o1) wedge tail to both letter "R"; short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as in obverse.

No second reverse die recorded.

No second die recorded



o2

Class 4b c Autumn 1282

✠EDW R'ANGL'DNS hYB

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

P



Eaglen 388 (7)



p1

Obverse large bust with a large square chin; wedge shaped drapery with short collar each side; hair with two main and one thin outer curl; wide splayed crown; initial cross potent; out turned tail letter "R" and "h"; large oval centred letter "S".

Reverses

(p1) Wedge tails to letter "R"; short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as in obverse.

(p2) Lettering as in (p1).

Eaglen 389 (5)

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE



p2

Class 4c c Autumn 1282

✠EDW R'ANGL'DN hYB

ROBE / RTDE / hADE / LEIE

M



Eaglen 390 (6)



m1

Obverse (M)

Legend now reads ✠EDW R'ANGL'DN hYB (note the missing "S" in "DN-");

large face with rounded chin that has similarities to the last die of 4b; thicker drapery than seen in class 4b; long thick bushy hair; well spread trifoliate crown with large arrowhead jewels; initial cross potent; central fleur breaches inner circle; both straight and incurved lettering; unbarred letter "A"; incurved tail to letters both "R" and "h"; nick to the top left of the crown band between the left jewel and the left side fleur.

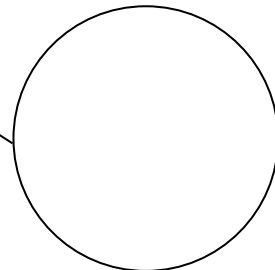
Reverses

(m1) Wedge tail to letter "R"; short incurved tail to letter "h" otherwise lettering as in obverse

(die features) letter "L" runs into second "D";

"B" runs into letter "E"; letter "I" runs into letter "E"; unbarred letter "A".

No second die recorded



m2

No second reverse die recorded.