I: HOARDS (Shotter 1990, 131 onwards)

1 MANCHESTER (DENTON). A small hoard of twenty late fourth-century *aes* coins was found in Denton, apparently in 1986; between then and ‘rediscovery’ in 1991 the original collection was contaminated with a few other pieces. The hoard is one of the latest to have been found in north-west England, the only comparable collection being that found in Brindle in 1934 (Shotter 1990, 150). The group of twenty includes four illegible issues, of which one is apparently of early fourth-century date and the other three are comparable with the rest of the hoard. Many of the coins appear to be copies of poor quality; their condition suggests that coins were still being added to the collection into the early fifth century A.D. The coins are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coin Type</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Radiate copy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licinius</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>(R.I.C. VII</em> (Alexandria) 28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constantinian</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(A.D. 330–346)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constantius II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>*(as <em>L.R.B.C.</em>, II, 76)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gratian</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnus Maximus</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theodosius</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arcadius</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Theodosian’</td>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>(including <em>L.R.B.C.</em>, II, 1867/8/9)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mints of origin are difficult to identify, but it is clear that some at least of the coins were issued from eastern mints. Information from Mr M. Nevell of Greater Manchester Archaeology Unit; the hoard is now published in Nevell 1992, 99.

2 PREESALL (Shotter 1990, 160). Two further coins have been reported from the same source on Preesall Hill: an illegible radiate copy and a silver-washed antoninianus of Cornelia Salonina (R.I.C. (Joint Reign) 5). The number of coins recovered from this hoard is now thirteen radiates and copies.

3 RIBCHESTER. My attention has been drawn to two aurei in the Hart Collection in Blackburn Museum; they are an issue each of Titus and Domitian as Caesars (R.I.C. (Vespasian) 177 and 232). In addition the Harris Museum at Preston has an impression of an aureus of Nero (R.I.C. I² (Nero) 52). All three appear to have been discovered in January 1837 close to the site where, a month later, the bath-house was located. A contemporary report (Preston Pilot, 11 February 1837) shows that the coins were found together, leaving open the possibility that they formed the whole or part of a hoard. Blackburn Museum acquired its two coins in 1903. Information from Mr B. J. N. Edwards.

It is worth noting that two further early imperial aurei are recorded in Watkin’s coin-list for Ribchester (1883, 162 onwards); they are an issue each of Trajan (R.I.C. 93) and Faustina I (R.I.C. (Antoninus) 351). The latter is said to have been found in 1834. The circumstances of discovery are not recorded, although a hoard of aurei from Nero to Faustina I is not unlikely and is approximately paralleled in the Thorngraffton hoard from Hadrian’s Wall, also found in 1837 (Birley 1961, 261).

Bolton Museum has had in its collection since 1908 or earlier three unprovenanced aurei which may conceivably derive from the same source. They are an issue each of Vitellius (R.I.C. I² (Vitellius) 89), Faustina I (R.I.C. (Antoninus) 356), and Faustina II (R.I.C. (Marcus) 709).

4 FRECKLETON. The report in Transactions volume 142 contained information about four denarii found in the area of Naze Mount. It has since become clear that since 1989 seventeen denarii have been recovered during agricultural activity, and that they are the whole or part of a disturbed hoard. There was no sign of a container. The coins are mostly
poorly preserved and range in date from Marcus Antonius (32–31 B.C.) to Marcus Aurelius (A.D. 161); this is a common 'hoarding-period' in the North-West and may reflect circumstances which were disturbed either politically or economically. The coins are:

- Marcus Antonius 2 (Crawford 1974, 544 (2))
- Nero 1 (R.I.C. I², 60)
- Vittellius 1 (R.I.C. I², 70)
- Vespasian 3 (including R.I.C. 1 and 48)
- Titus (as Caesar) 1 (R.I.C. (Vespasian) 195)
- Domitian 1 (R.I.C. 65)
- Trajan 1 (R.I.C. 317)
- Hadrian 4 (R.I.C. 97, 267 (2), 305)
- Faustina I 2 (R.I.C. (Antoninus) 351, 381b)
- Marcus Aurelius 1 (R.I.C. 18)

5 ECCLES. The records of Bolton Museum contain a reference to the receipt in the late nineteenth century of twenty coins as the gift of the Duchy of Lancaster. The coins cannot now be traced in the museum’s collection as no contemporary record was made of their dates and types or of the circumstances of discovery. Information from Mrs Angela Thomas.

6 NELSON (CATLOW-IN-MARSDEN). A hoard of late imperial coins was apparently found in a pot in 1866 (T.L.C.A.S. X (1892), 250; Shotter 1990, 159). No other details of the hoard survived. It is, however, worth noting that as early as 1922 Oldham Museum had in its collection of unprovenanced coins sixteen issues of Constantine I, which clearly derive from a single find. The date-range of the coins is A.D. 310–317 and it is possible that they came from the Catlow hoard. The coins are:

- London mint 9 (R.I.C. VI, 152 (2), 195 (2), 214, 254, 279 (2), 281)
- Lyons mint 3 (R.I.C. VII, 5, 15, 31)
- Trier mint 4 (R.I.C. VII, 46, 51, 133 (2))

7 CASTLESHAW. Three denarii—one each of Hadrian, Sabina, and Lucius Verus—are recorded in Oldham Museum as having been found at Castleshaw in 1898. Since they do not totally conform with other dating evidence from the site, there is a possibility that the three coins constituted the whole or part of a hoard. Information from Peter Fox of Oldham Museum.
II: CASUAL FINDS (Shotter 1990, 219 onwards)

1 PENDLETON. A sestertius of Faustina II (A.D. 161–176) has been reported; the coin was too corroded to permit detailed identification. The National Grid reference of the precise find-spot is lodged with Ribchester Museum. Information from Mr Jim Ridge.

2 COCKERSANDS. A sestertius of Trajan (R.I.C. 497, of A.D. 103–111) was found in 1992 on the beach. The coin was corroded but little worn.

3 STODDAY, LANCASTER. A little-worn copy of an as of Claudius (R.I.C. I², 100, of A.D. 41–50) has been reported. It should be noted that this find represents another pre-Neronian aes issue from a coastal location in the North-West (Shotter 1990, 231).

4 DINCKLEY. A little-worn denarius of Trajan (R.I.C. 125, of A.D. 103–111) was found in 1989 close to the line of the Roman road running east from the fort at Ribchester.

5 RIVINGTON. Bolton Museum has a record of a find made in the late nineteenth century of two Constantinian coins (L.R.B.C., I, 52 and 184) at Old Grut Farm; the probable location is lodged with the museum.

6 TURTON. I have previously recorded the finding of a Constantinian aes coin at Turton Tower in 1894 (Shotter 1990, 228). The records of Bolton Museum make it clear that in fact two Constantinian coins were found.

7 OLDHAM AND SADDLEWORTH. A number of coins have been found over the years in the Oldham and Saddleworth areas. Full details need not be repeated here as they are given in Bulletin of Saddleworth Historical Society, XI (1981), 71–73. The coins are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coin</th>
<th>Find Location</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domitian</td>
<td>Alexandra Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antoninus Pius</td>
<td>As</td>
<td>Crow Knoll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcus Aurelius</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcus Aurelius</td>
<td></td>
<td>Royton (Spaw)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postumus</td>
<td>Radiate (R.I.C. 75)</td>
<td>Royton 1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudius II</td>
<td>Tetradrachm (Milne 4199?)</td>
<td>Moorside 1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probus</td>
<td>Tetradrachm</td>
<td>Derker 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carus</td>
<td>Tetradrachm</td>
<td>Snipe Clough 1916</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Diocletian  
(R.I.C. VI  
(Alexandria) 32a)  
Castleshaw  
c. 1920  
Valley

Constantine I  
Pitses  
1937

A considerable number of these coins came from locations near the Roman road from Manchester to Castleshaw. The number of Alexandrian tetradrachms is worth noting and supplements others from the area which have already been published (Shotter 1990, 225 onwards); such coins presumably reached the area through commercial activities. A consideration of Roman coins from Castleshaw Roman fort itself is to appear in a future issue of *Greater Manchester Archaeological Journal*. I am grateful to Mr Jim Carr of Saddleworth Historical Society for bringing this information to my attention.

8 PRESTON. The *Lancashire Daily Post*, 30 October 1939, reported the finding of a number of Roman coins during construction work at the Harris Museum. The coins, which cannot now be traced, were never identified.

9 PILLING. A *drachma* of Trajan, minted at Alexandria (Milne 595?) is reported to have been found some thirty years ago (c. 1960) in the vicinity of Bonds Farm. Although Alexandrian coins of the third century A.D. are relatively common finds in Britain, earlier imperial issues are less frequently recovered.

ABBREVIATIONS AND REFERENCES