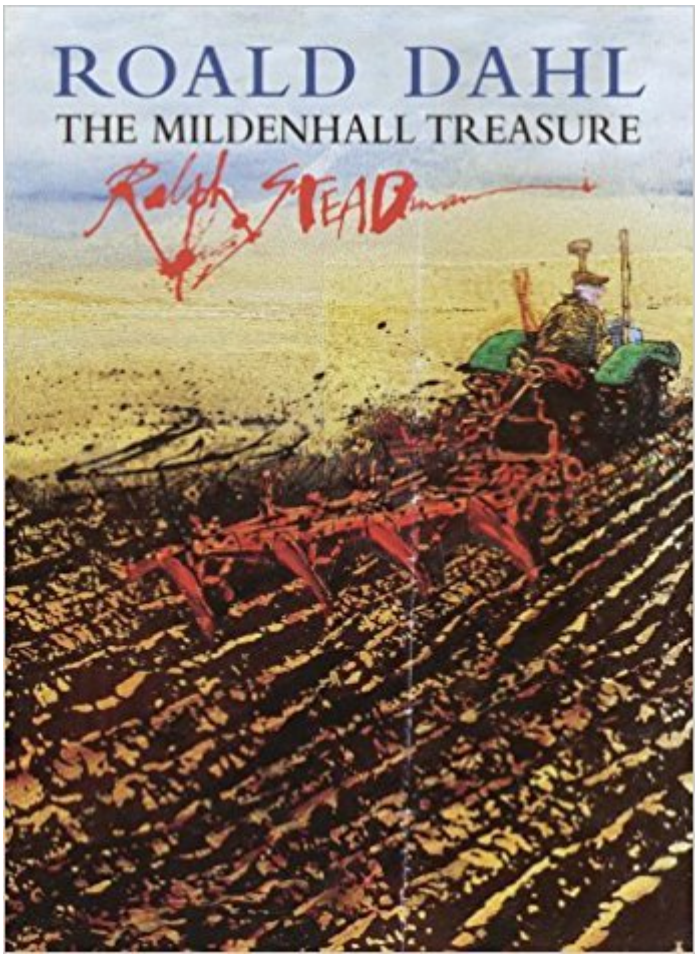
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# The Mildenhall Treasure




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## Synopsis

During World War II, a British plowman discovered a hoard of Roman silver while plowing a field in the Suffolk countryside. Unaware of the treasure's value, he was cheated out of the fortune that should have been his by the man who hired him. The 34 pieces of silver were discovered after the war by the authorities and taken to the British Museum, where they reside today. Master storyteller Roald Dahl relates the unforgettable and true tale of the greatest treasure ever found in the British Isles.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 80 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,599,567 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Social Science > Archaeology #127 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > Europe #127 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Archaeology

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Buried one foot below the surface of a field called Thistley Green in the English town of Mildenhall, a most fantastic Roman treasure lay for centuries until a ploughman came along in the 1940s and accidentally dug it up. What followed was the worst kind of tragedy, because it involves human greed and abuse of a good man's innocence. Gordon Butcher, discoverer of this treasure, was entitled by British law to the full amount of its market value. Butcher was not aware of this law; however, another ploughman named Ford did know about it, and managed to bamboozle Butcher out of the fortune. This remarkable story was written in 1946 by a young Roald Dahl, who went on to write such beloved classics as James and the Giant Peach and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Dahl's inimitable style blazes through even in his early career. The true story, republished with

stunning art by Ralph Steadman, is as riveting as if it had happened today, with heartbreaking notes of unbearable unfairness and sincere naivetÃƒÂ©. Each page, thickly covered with rich, dark splashes of paint, sketchy faces, and bits of collage, has a wild and ominous tenor, reflected in the ferocious weather that fateful day when the hapless farmer found--and lost--the greatest treasure ever found in the British Isles. (Ages 9 and older) --Emilie Coulter

Grade 5 Up-This story was originally published as a magazine article in the late ’40s and again as part of the collection The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar and Six More (Knopf, 1977). A simple, honest plowman in wartime England uncovers a king’s ransom in Roman silver in a field. By law, it must revert to the Crown, but a crafty colleague tricks the man out of the treasure, which would have brought him millions of pounds had he turned it in immediately. The colleague, in the meantime, keeps the silver and only gives it up when he is caught red-handed by a visiting scholar. It is a wonderful story, told in direct, high-impact sentences with the confiding, sure voice of a storyteller. Steadman’s artwork, which is done primarily in dark colors, is fairly prosaic and cold at the beginning, though the colors warm and the compositions become more focused as the tale progresses. The tone and temper of the illustrations match with the narrative, even though some of the pictures are a page behind it. However, while the compositions have a nice balance to them, some of the work is so abstract or dark that it is difficult to imagine why it was put together with a story primarily marketed to children. There is no perfect marriage of art and text here. Buy Henry Sugar for Dahl fans who may never have heard of The Mildenhall Treasure and leave Steadman for the galleries and adult art books.Patricia A. Dollisch, DeKalb County Public Library, Decatur, GA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I am a person who does genealogy. I was working on a client’s family tree from England and the Mildenhall Treasure came up. I ordered and received the book and read it immediately. Great true story! Easy reading and very interesting. Makes one wonder where else in England there is more treasure. Great book for young to old.

I love this book. I lived in Mildenhall for 4 years and never knew about this so it was fun learning about it.

Having just moved to London, my grandson (age 9) was fascinated by this book. The art was perfect for the mood of the story and the book had been signed by the artist. The small bookstore

ensured that I received this book before leaving for London. Soon Adam will go to the British Museum to see the treasure for himself. A fine and personal Christmas gift and a good way to learn history along with your child.

Reads easily and the illustrations are wonderfully done. It is even better since it is a true story. I am buying as gifts.

A true story cleverly written bi Roald Dahl...recommended to me while visiting the actual treasure at the British Museum..Because it is now out of print I was unable to find it in England, so was pleased to find it through

Illustrations and story superior.

A very funny dry account of hidden treasure. Superb writing and illustrations by Steadman. I recommend this book to anyone who loves a good English story.

This picture storybook tells abou the discovery of the Mildenhall Treasure in a cloak-and-dagger tale of betrayal and disloyalty. Extremely interesting book, told in Roald Dahl's amazing vocabulary, and sure to captivate your kids.For kids interested in human antiquities, try these:The Secret Cave: Discovering LascauxSeeker of Knowledge: The Man Who Deciphered Egyptian Hieroglyphs**update -- we found an art project to make a weathered-looking silver project. Try Donna Hugh's Art Lessons, Vol 2 -- foil art.Ã Â Easy Art Projects (Art Lessons for Children, Vol. 2) [VHS] See our photos in Customer Images. We also made valentines this way.

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