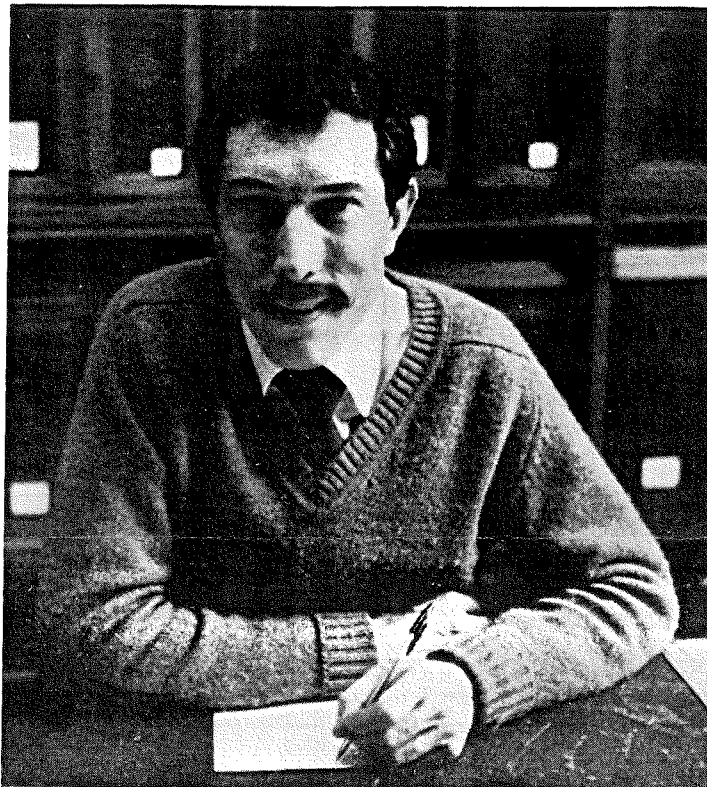


896 BIVAR, A.D.H. Obituar[y]: Nicholas Lowick.
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OBITUARY
NICHOLAS LOWICK



For some months it had been known that Nicholas Lowick was seriously ill, but until September last he had bravely continued to work. He attended the Tenth International Congress of Numismatics which was held in London then and was actively arranging to complete and publish his long-planned *Corpus of Early Abbasid Coinage*. The suddenness of his death, which occurred on 11 November 1986, made the loss of a kind person and fine scholar at the early age of 45 particularly sad.

Nicholas Manning Lowick went to school at Clifton College and from there proceeded to Christ's College, Cambridge, where he took his degree in French and German. On coming down from the University he was selected by the British Museum to fill the post of Assistant Keeper with responsibility for Oriental Coins. So, in 1962, he joined the Museum's Department of Coins and Medals, in which he was to work for the rest of his life. Initially, Islamic numismatics, the field in which Nicholas specialized, was also represented in the Museum by the distinguished figure of John Walker, by whom he may be said to have been trained. However, Walker too died long before retirement age, in 1964. Subsequently Nicholas was in charge, for most of the time single-handed, of the Oriental collections. In 1979 he achieved the unusual distinction of being awarded a Personal Deputy Keepership in the Department on the strength of his academic record. His time at the Museum fell in a period when much Oriental material, from the Middle East in particular, was appearing on the international numismatic market and the active and discriminating policy of acquisition he pursued has resulted in considerable expansion and enrichment of the Museum's holdings.

In a characteristically self-effacing but efficient manner he involved himself in the affairs of the learned societies closest to his work. He was Library Secretary of the Royal Numismatic Society, and a Member of the Society's Council between 1964–1981. From 1973–1986 he was Reviews Editor of that