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AN EVALUATION OF THE OLBA NYMPHAEUM AND ITS COINS

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Abstract: The Nymphaeum of Olba is located northeast of the theatre building and northwest of the Olba Acropolis, which has a sheltered appearance. The studies conducted in Olba revealed how important water is for the city and indicated that various systems were built to meet this need. This study investigates 45 coins unearthed during the 2023 and 2024 excavations of the Olba Nymphaeum. It also presents the catalog and archeological and numismatic analyses of the coins in question. Furthermore, new architectural findings related to the building were interpreted in relation to the coins. The sculptural artifacts, figured sarcophagus fragments, various architectural plastic stone elements from the building's decoration, and glass and ceramic finds recovered during the Nymphaeum excavations indicate that the structure experienced multiple phases of use. The coins analyzed in this study play a pivotal role in corroborating the different phases of the usage of the Nymphaeum.

Keywords: *Cilicia, Olba, Nymphaeum, Numismatics, Coin.*

INTRODUCTION

Water has been an essential resource throughout history, prompting the construction of various structures and systems to utilize it efficiently. Nymphaea, defined as monumental fountain buildings, hold a significant place among these structures. These edifices were the final point in a network of canals and transmission pipes that transported water from nearby sources. Due to their functional and aesthetic characteristics, nymphaea were centrally located and contributed significantly to the city's visual appeal¹.

An analysis of Greek and Roman cities reveals that nymphaea were constructed near city entrance gates, along main streets leading to the agora, at major street intersections, and most notably, within the agora itself, where people gathered for various needs². The central location of the Nymphaeum in Olba, which is the focus of this study, is a significant example of Romanized urban life.

ARCHITECTURE

The Nymphaeum of Olba³ is situated northeast of the theatre building and northwest of the Olba Acropolis, which has a sheltered appearance (Fig. 1).

An analysis of the cross-section of the Nymphaeum reveals that the structure was built at different elevations following the topography. The fountain

¹ ŞİMŞEK 2016, 33.

² MESHINI 1963, 506; ŞİMŞEK 2016, 34.

³ For the first studies on the Olba Nymphaeum, see: KEIL-WILHELM 1931, 82–84; ÖZBAY 1998; ÖZBAY 1998, 121–129; ERTEN-ÖZYILDIRIM 2006, 421–433; ŞİMŞEK 2016; ÖZBAY 2018, 144–146.

serves as a simple yet elegant example of the combination of circular and rectangular niches embedded in a thick wall, along with a fountain positioned in front of them, whose façade is modeled after temples⁴. As an architectural construction technique, the Nymphaeum was built using the rectagonal wall technique, either without or with minimal mortar. The structure measures 15×17 meters and features a U-shaped plan. Since it was constructed on the slope of the Acropolis, it was eventually covered by a nearly 2-meter-thick fill consisting of soil carried by water and fallen stones over time. The eastern section of the building has been completely demolished; however, the publication by Keil and Wilhelm in 1931 indicates that this façade was still standing at the time⁵. The remaining western section stands at a height of 12 meters. While some of the stones from the demolished eastern façade collapsed directly into the building, most fell behind it.

The front façade of the fountain building is accessed via a staircase with four steps⁶. Beyond the stairs, a platform 4.40 meters wide leads to the pool section of the fountain. The pool measures 2x13 meters. Following excavation work, detailed measurements showed that the pool has a length of 12.64 meters, a width of 2 meters, and a depth of 0.98 meters. Beyond the pool is a platform measuring 1 meter in height, 0.60 meters in width, and 12.50 meters in length. A fountain in the form of a trough is present at the center of this section⁷. There is a stone basin in front of the Nymphaeum. While animal heads were often used at the water outlet in fountain structures, the absence of such a feature in the Olba structure is particularly striking⁸. Although it has not survived to the present day, it is estimated that a two-story colonnaded façade once stood in front of the building⁹.

Despite resembling the form of Roman Imperial period fountain structures, the Olba Nymphaeum shows differences from the type of fountain it belongs to. It is notably smaller in size compared to contemporary fountains of similar form. One key similarity, however, is its construction in front of a thick wall. In this regard, the Olba Nymphaeum is a small, simple, yet beautiful example of Roman Imperial buildings with monumental façades¹⁰.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Initial excavations at the fountain structure commenced in 2023, which were conducted in four designated areas, labeled N1 to N4 (Fig. 1). Excavations began in the pool section of the fountain and the area identified as N1. It was observed that the space had been filled with a combination of stones and soil. Upon removing the upper rubble and soil fill, architectural elements such as column capitals, column bases, and superstructure components were uncovered. As excavation

progressed in the pool, a statue of a woman, unlike any other known examples in the region, was unearthed, along with fragments from two short sides of a sarcophagus adorned with various mythological scenes¹¹. The statue, sarcophagus fragments, and other architectural pieces are dated to the 2nd–3rd centuries AD, coinciding with the fountain's initial construction period.

The work in Sondage N2 focused on documenting the stone platform in front of the pool and the architectural artifacts in the area. Excavations in Sondage N3 began at the lower level of the smooth stone platform uncovered in Sondage N2. The studies revealed that this area had suffered significant damage. Regarding architectural layout, Sondage N3 primarily features bedrock that has been extensively utilized. The mosaic floor, featuring geometric motifs and covering an area of 185x270 cm, along with the door thresholds and architectural features uncovered during the excavations in Sondage N3, suggest that the structure was likely used as a residential space during its initial construction phase.

Sondage N3 attracts attention both for its mosaic flooring and the density of coin finds that form the subject of this study. Among the coins, the prevalence of Late Antiquity specimens is particularly notable, indicating that the building was used during this period, following its initial use during the Early and Roman Imperial periods. Additionally, architectural traces suggest that the building underwent several repairs during Late Antiquity and subsequent periods. Societies that continued to occupy and repurpose the structure carried out repairs to address visible deterioration. The spolia found on the upper and side walls of the Nymphaeum provide further evidence of these restoration efforts.

Archaeological excavations have revealed multiple phases of use within the building. Both the sculptural and architectural plastic artifacts found in Sondage N1, located in the pool section of the building, as well as the geometrically patterned floor mosaic discovered in Sondage N3, provide evidence of the building's use during its initial construction phase. These findings suggest that the city underwent construction influenced by the broader "Romanisation"¹² policy and that the fountain structure was erected in the 2nd century AD, alongside the Aqueduct, as part of these construction efforts. The inscription on the Aqueduct confirms that the structure was built during the reign of Emperor Septimius Severus¹³. Additionally, an updated plan of the Nymphaeum structure was created through the studies conducted (Fig. 2).

COINS

The excavation of the Olba Nymphaeum between 2023 and 2024 resulted in the discovery of 45 coins spanning from the 4th century BC to the 7th century AD. The coins include one each from the Classical, Hellenistic, and Byzantine periods, while the remaining 42 are from the Roman period (Graph. 1). A comparison of the periodical distribution of the Nymphaeum coins with that of previously published

⁴ ÖZBAY 2018, 144.

⁵ KEIL-WILHELM 1931, Taf. 36.

⁶ The steps are 13 meters wide, with each step having a height of 30 cm and a depth of 40 cm.

⁷ ŞİMŞEK 2016, 35

⁸ ÖZBAY 1998,

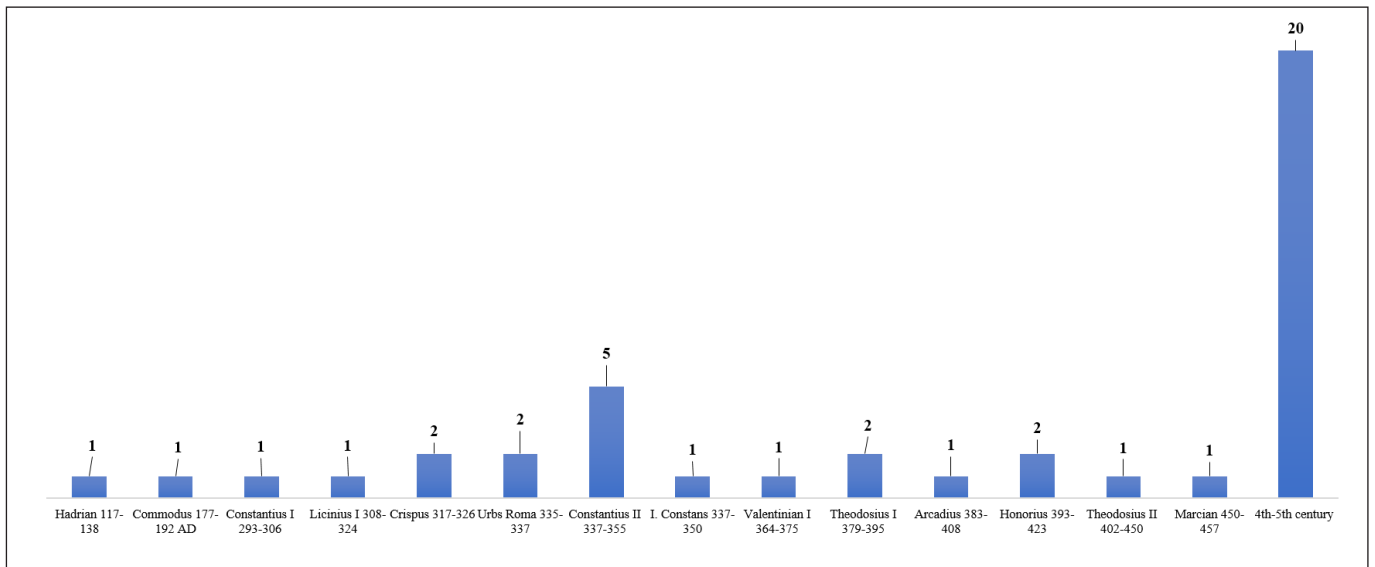
⁹ A round architrave fragment found among the building's ruins suggests that there may have been one or two round niches in front of or at the center of the main wall of the fountain, see: ARAN 1971, 114.

¹⁰ ÖZBAY 2018, 144–145.

¹¹ For the first results on the statues and reliefs found in the pool section of the fountain, see: YEĞİN-SUMMERER-FENDT 2025, 57–61.

¹² ERTEN 2009, 76–85.

¹³ KEIL-WILHELM 1931, 80–83.



Graph 1. Distribution of Roman Coins Found in Nymphaeum Excavations According to Emperors.



Fig. 1. General view of the Olba Nymphaeum.

ones from the Olba excavations revealed a high degree of compatibility between the two¹⁴. The earliest coin found

¹⁴ SARIİZ 2014; AKÇAY 2017a, 69–78; AKÇAY 2017b, 211–227; ERTEN 2017, 129–146; AKÇAY 2019, 137–152; AKSOY 2019.

during the Nymphaeum excavations is a Holmoi obol, dating to the 4th century BC. The Hellenistic coin belongs to the Macedonian kingdom and was minted in the name of Ptolemy III Euergetes between 246 and 221 BC. Among the 42 Roman coins uncovered at the Nymphaeum, one is a

Roman provincial coin minted in Olba, while the remainder are Roman Imperial coins. Of these, the emperor's name can be read on 22 coins, but the identity of the emperor for the remaining 20 coins remains undetermined. However, based on their iconographic characteristics, these coins are attributed to the Late Roman period, minted between the 4th and 5th centuries AD.

The distribution of the 15 Roman Imperial coins with readable mintmarks revealed that the majority were minted in Antiochia ad Orontem and Constantinople, with four coins each. Alexandria and Cyzicus follow with two examples each, while Nicomedia, Rome, and Siscia each contribute one coin. Among the Roman Imperial coins, there is one sesterius and one antoninianus, while the majority are AE3 and AE4 units. The only Byzantine coin discovered during the Nymphaeum excavations is a follis of Constans II, minted at the Constantinople mint in 654–655 AD.

CONCLUSION

The Nymphaeum of Olba is centrally situated within the city, presenting a monumental appearance. Initial excavations commenced in 2023, with the archaeological phase of the work mainly concluding in 2024. The findings from these excavations indicate that the building was constructed during a period of significant Romanisation, a phenomenon reflected in other structures across the city. In addition to providing insight into the architectural features of the building, the excavations are notable due to the substantial

number of archaeological finds uncovered. As mentioned above, many sculptural artifacts, architectural plastic artifacts, glass, ceramic, and various metal objects, as well as coins, which constitute the subject of this study, were recovered from the Nymphaeum. Among the architectural plastic elements, column capitals, column bases, shafts, and various superstructure components, dated to the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD, offer valuable insight into the initial construction phase of the fountain building. Comparisons to similar examples corroborate this dating. The 45 coins discovered at the Olba Nymphaeum can be classified into five primary groups: Classical, Hellenistic, Early Roman, Late Roman, and Byzantine. A consideration of the data obtained from the archaeological excavations in conjunction with the coin finds suggests that the Classical and Hellenistic coins are linked to the area before the construction of the Nymphaeum. The Early Roman coins of Hadrian and Commodus likely correspond to the period during which the Nymphaeum was constructed. The Late Roman coins, dating from the 4th to the 5th centuries AD, signify the building's most intensive use phase. This perspective is supported by the periodical distribution of the coins, which shows a strong representation of the centuries in question. The use of spolia and the repairs observed within the Nymphaeum were likely undertaken during these centuries. The solitary Byzantine coin of Constans II, discovered during the excavations, probably belongs to the final phase of the building's use, when it was destroyed and ceased functioning.



Fig. 2. The Plan of the Nymphaeum at Olba.

CATALOGUE

Classical Coinage

Holmoi

4th century BC

Obv: Helmeted head of Athena right.

Rev: [OΛMIT]IKON

Bearded male head left.

Ref: SNG Levante, 36.

1*. AR, Obol, 10 mm., 0.47 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S06.

Ptolemaic Coinage

Ptolemy III Euergetes 246–221 BC

Cyprus

Obv: Horned Head of Zeus Ammon right, wearing taenia with basileion, dotted border.

Rev: ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ

Facing statue of Aphrodite on base, wearing chiton and polos, right hand holding lotus blossom to breast, left hand holding poppies or myrtle branches, dotted border.

Ref: Svoronos, 1006; CPE II, no. B448.

2*. AE, 24 mm., 8.83 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S01.

Roman Provincial Coinage

Olba

Hadrian 117–138 AD

Obv: ΑΥΤΟ ΚΑΙ ΘΕ ΤΡΑ ΠΑΡ ΥΙ ΑΔΡΙΑΝΟΥ

Laureate heads of emperor, right.

Rev: [O]Α[BC]ΩΝ

Diademed and draped bust of Selene goddess right, within crescent.

Ref: RPC III, 3242; SNG Levante suppl., 173.

3*. AE, 20 mm., 5.23 g., Dp. 7, Exc. Inv. O23.N3.S01.

Roman Imperial Coinage

Commodus 177–192 AD

Rome

187 AD

Obv: [M COMMODVS] ANT [P FELIX AVG BRIT]

Laureate heads of emperor, right.

Rev: [PVBLICA FEL P M TR P XII IMP VIII COS V P P] / S – C

Felicitas standing facing holding patera and scepter.

Ref: RIC III, 503 (Rome).

4*. AE, Sestertius, 30 mm., 21.58 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S36.

Constantius I 293–306 AD

Antiochia

293–295 AD

Obv: FL VAL CONSTANTIVS NOB CAES

Bust of emperor, radiate, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: IOVI ET HERCVLI CONS CAES

Jupiter standing right, holding sceptre and globe, receiving Victory from Hercules, standing left, holding club and lion-skin. S in lower centre. Mintmark XXI•

Ref: RIC V/II, 673 (Antiochia).

5*. AE, Antoninianus, 22 mm., 3.91 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O23.N2.S01.

Licinius I 308–324 AD

Nicomedia

321–324 AD

Obv: IMP C VAL LICIN LICINIVS P F AVG

Bust of emperor, radiate, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: IOVI CONS – ERVATORI

Jupiter is standing, head to the left, naked except for chlamys across left shoulder, holding Victory on globe in right hand and eagle-tipped scepter in left, captive on the ground to the right, eagle to the left holding wreath in beak; X above III in right field. Mintmark: SMNB

Ref: RIC VII, 44 (Nicomedia).

6*. AE3, 21 mm., 2.05 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S29.

Urbs Roma

Cyzicus

335–337 AD

Obv: VRBS ROMA

Helmeted bust of Roma left wearing imperial mantle.

Rev: No legend. She-wolf standing left suckling Romulus and Remus, two stars above. Mintmark: SMKIΓ

Ref: RIC VII, 105 (Cyzicus); LRBC I, 1248.

7*. AE4, 15 mm., 2.26 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O23.N3.S03.

Alexandria

335–337 AD

Obv: VRBS ROMA

Helmeted bust of Roma left wearing imperial mantle.

Rev: No legend. She-wolf standing left suckling Romulus and Remus, two stars above, S-R to left and right of stars.

Mintmark: SMALA

Ref: RIC VIII, 8 (Alexandria).

8*. AE4, 17 mm., 1.57 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S18.

Crispus 317–326 AD

Antiochia

317 AD

Obv: D N FL IVL CRISPVS NOB CAES

Bust of emperor, left, laureate, wearing imperial mantle, globe and scepter in left hand, mappa in right.

Rev: PROVIDEN – TIAE CAESS

Camp-gate without doors, with three turrets, with six stone layers.

Ref: RIC VII, 18 (Antiochia).

9*. AE3, 19 mm., 3.07 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S28.

Siscia

321–324 AD

Obv: IVL CRIS – PVS NOB C

Laureate heads of emperor, right.

Rev: CAESARVM NOSTRORVM

Inscription encircling laurel wreath enclosing VOT/X, Mintmark: ΓSIS

Ref: RIC VIII, 181 (Siscia).

10*. AE3, 19 mm., 3.34 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S35.

Constantius II 337–355 AD

Constantinople

353–354 AD

Obv: D N CONSTAN – TIVS P F AVG

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: FEL TEMP RE- PARATIO

Helmeted soldier to left, shield on left arm, spearing falling horseman; shield on ground to right. Horseman is bearded, and bare-headed, he turns to face soldier and extends left arm. Mintmark: CON[]

Ref: RIC VIII, 121, LRBC II, 2043.

11*. AE3, 18 mm., 2.34 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S09.

Antiochia

330–335 AD

Obv: FL IVL CONSTANTIVS NOB C

Bust of emperor, laureated, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: GLOR – IA EXERC – ITVS

Two soldiers helmeted, standing facing one another, reversed spear in outer hand, inner hand on shield resting on the ground, between them one standard. Mintmark: SMANH

Ref: RIC VII, 88 (Antiochia), LRBC I, 1358.

12*. AE4, 16 mm., 1.32 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O23.N3.S04.

Undefinite Mint

336–340 AD

Obv: [D] N CON[STAN]N – TIVS P F AVG

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: GLOR – IA EXERC – ITVS

Two soldiers helmeted, standing facing one another, reversed spear in outer hand, inner hand on shield resting on the ground, between them one standard.

13*. AE4, 15 mm., 1.64 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S34.

353–354 AD

Obv: [D] N CONSTAN] – TIVS [P F AVG]

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [FEL TEMP RE- PARATIO]

Helmeted soldier to left, shield on left arm, spearing falling horseman; shield on ground to right. Horseman is bearded, and bare-headed, he turns to face soldier and extends left arm.

14. AE3, 17 mm., 1.47 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S26.

Obv: D N CO[NSTAN] – TIVS P F AVG

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [FEL TEMP RE- PARATIO]

Helmeted soldier to left, shield on left arm, spearing falling horseman; shield on ground to right. Horseman is bearded, and bare-headed, he turns to face soldier and extends left arm.

15. AE3, 17 mm., 2.99 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S33.

I. Constans 337–350 AD

Cyzicus

337–340 AD

Obv: D N CONSTA – [NS] P F AVG

Laureate heads of emperor, right.

Rev: GLOR-IA EXERC-ITVS

Two helmeted soldiers facing, heads turned towards each other; each holds an inverted spear and rests on a shield; between them, a standard. Mintmark: SMKA

Ref: RIC VIII, 14 (Cyzicus).

16. AE4, 15 mm., 1.02 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S02.

Valentinian I 364–375 AD

Constantinople

364–367 AD

Obv: DN VALENTINI-[ANVS PF AVG]

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [GLORIA RO-MANORVM]

Emperor advancing right, holding labarum and dragging captive behind him. Mintmark: CON[]

Ref: RIC IX, 16a (Constantinople).

17. AE3, 16 mm., 0.76 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S14.

Theodosius I 379–395 AD

Constantinople

383–394 AD

Obv: [D N TH]EODO – [SIVS P F AVG]

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [SALVS REI] – PVBLICAE

Victory advancing left, with right hand carrying trophy on shoulder, and left dragging captive. Chi-Rho in left field. Mintmark: CON[]

Ref: RIC IX, 86 (Constantinople), LRBC II, 2184.

18. AE4, 13 mm., 1.09 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S05.

Alexandria

383–394 AD

Obv: [D N THEODO] – SIVS P F AVG

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: SALVS REI – PVBLICAE

Victory advancing left, with right hand carrying trophy on shoulder, and left dragging captive. Chi-Rho in left field. Mintmark: ALEB

Ref: RIC IX, 20 (Alexandria), LRBC II, 2905.

19*. AE4, 13 mm., 1.28 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S16.

Arcadius 383–408

Undefinite Mint

404–406 AD

Obv: D N ARCAD I – [VS P F AVG]

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [CONCORDIA AVG]

Stylized cross.

20*. AE4, 12 mm., 0.78 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S11.

Honorius 393–423 AD

Antiochia

401–403 AD

Obv: D N HONORI-VS P F AVG

Bust of emperor, helmeted, pearl-diademed, and cuirassed bust facing, holding spear over right shoulder behind the head, and on the left arm a shield decorated with horseman; cross on cuirass.

Rev: CONCORDI – A AVGG

Constantinopolis enthroned facing, head left, with right foot on prow, holding long scepter in right hand and Victory on globe in left. Mintmark: ANTI

Ref: RIC X, 99 (Antiochia); LRBC II, 2798.

21*. AE3, 18 mm., 2.42 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S17.

Undefinite Mint

406–408 AD

Obv: D N HO[NORI-VS P F A] VG

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [GLOR – IA ROMA – NORVM]

Three emperors (Arcadius, Honorius and Theodosius II) standing facing, the two outermost holding spears with outer hand and leaning on shields with inner hands, the innermost with head right holding spear in right hand and globe in left hand.

22. AE3, 16 mm., 1.40 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S22.

Theodosius II 402–450 AD

Constantinople

425–435 AD

Obv: D N THEODOSIVS P F AVG

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: No legend. Cross within wreath. Mintmark: CON

Ref: RIC X, 445 (Constantinople); LRBC II, 2238.

23*. AE4, 12 mm., 1.23 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S31.

Marcian 450–457 AD

Obv: [D N MARCIANVS P F AVG]

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: Monogram of Marcian within wreath, cross above.

24. AE4, 11 mm., 0.79 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O23.N1.S01.

Undefinite Emperor and Mint

Constantinus Dynasty 321–348 AD

Obv: D N CON[]

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [VOT] / XX / MVLV / XXX in four lines within wreath.

25. AE4, 13 mm., 0.88 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S10.

336–342 AD

Obv: []

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [GLOR-IA] EXERC-[ITVS]

Two helmeted soldiers facing, heads turned towards each other; each holds an inverted spear and rests on a shield; between them, a standard.

26. AE4, 16 mm., 1.19 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S08.

347–383 AD

Obv: []

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [VOT / XX] / MVLV / XXX in four lines within wreath.

27. AE4, 15 mm., 1.65 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O23.N3.S02.

378–388 AD

Obv: []

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: VOT / V / [M]VLT / X in four lines within wreath.

28. AE4, 14 mm., 0.91 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S15.

383–403AD

Obv: []

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [SALVS REI – PVBLICAE]

Victory advancing left, with right hand carrying trophy on shoulder, and left dragging captive. Chi-Rho in left field.

29. AE4, 14 mm., 1.00 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S13.

30. AE4, 13 mm., 1.00 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S03.

Arcadius / Honorius 395–401 AD

Obv: [] – VS P F AVG

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [VIRTVS – EXERCITI]

Emperor standing left, head right, spear in right hand, resting left hand on shield, Victory standing left, palm branch in left hand, crowning emperor with wreath in right.

31. AE3, 14 mm., 1.71 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S24.

32. AE3, 14 mm., 0.71 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S19.

Arcadius / Honorius / Theodosius II 406–408 AD

Obv: []

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: [GLOR – IA ROMA – NORVM]

Three emperors (Arcadius, Honorius and Theodosius II) standing facing, the two outermost holding spears with outer hand and leaning on shields with inner hands, the innermost with head right holding spear in right hand and globe in left hand.

33. AE3, 14 mm., 1.66 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S07.

34. AE3, 14 mm., 1.09 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S04.

35. AE3, 12 mm., 0.76 g., Dp. 6, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S12.

Honorius / Theodosius II 408–423 AD

Obv: []

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: GLO[R – IA ROMA – NORVM]

Honorius and Theodosius II are standing facing, heads toward one another, each holding a spear in their outer hand and resting their inner hand on a shield; the emperor to the right is slightly shorter.

36. AE3, 13 mm., 1.27 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S23.

423–457 AD

Obv: []

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: No legend. Cross within wreath.

37. AE4, 12 mm., 1.36 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S32.

38. AE4, 10 mm., 1.00 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S27.

39. AE4, 10 mm., 0.75 g., Dp. 12, Exc. Inv. O24.N3.S30.

4th–5th century AD

Obv: []

Bust of emperor, pearl diademed, draped and cuirassed right.

Rev: Bad condition.

40. AE4, 14 mm., 1.91 g., Dp. [], Exc. Inv. O23.N3.S05.

41. AE4, 11 mm., 0.83 g., Dp. [], Exc. Inv. O24.N4.S20.

42. AE4, 11 mm., 0.56 g., Dp. [], Exc. Inv. O24.N4.S21.

43. AE4, 10 mm., 0.32 g., Dp. [], Exc. Inv. O24.N4.S25.

44. AE4, 9 mm., 0.52 g., Dp. [], Exc. Inv. O24.N4.S02.

Byzantine Coinage

Constans II 641–668 AD

Constantinople

Follis / 40 Nummia

Type 5

654–655

Obv: [CN TV-TO] NI[KA]

Constans II standing facing, beardless, wearing crown surmounted by cross, holding long cross in his right hand and globus cruciger in his left.

Rev: M, left A/N/A, above star, right [N/E/O/C], officina Δ, in ex. XIII

Ref: DOC II/II, p. 451, no. 72c.

45*. AE, 20 mm, 1.29 g, 6 h, Exc. Inv. O24.N4.S01.

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