

## A COLLECTION OF BYZANTINE COINS FROM SCYTHIA

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Recently I had the opportunity to study a collection of 108 Byzantine coins brought to the National History Museum of Romania by a collector claiming that the coins were found in Dobrudja, the Late Roman province of Scythia. The structure of the collection fits the pattern observed in the numerous fortresses of the province where a significant number of early Byzantine coins were found during archaeological excavations and surveys (Gândilă 2008; Gândilă 2003-2005; Custurea 2004-2005). It will be shown below that the chronological sequence of dated copper issues, as well as the proportion of mints and denominations, are characteristic to the Lower Danubian milieu. Therefore, it will be possible to conclude that the coins described in the catalogue were found mostly if not all on the territory of the former province of Scythia.

Most of the coins appear to be stray finds except for a number of small denominations, which seem to be part of a hoard and will be discussed separately. The collection itself is unevenly divided into early, 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> century (95 coins) and later Byzantine issues, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century (13 coins), and therefore the central analysis will focus on the early issues covering the period Anastasius – Heraclius. However, one should not overlook the presence of a rare Michael I follis as sole ruler (cat. 96) the first specimen of this sort found in Scythia to my knowledge (Custurea 2000 90, table1; Oberländer-Târnoveanu 1996 107). Beside the 108 coins, the collection includes a bronze weight of four solidi, a scarce artifact in the Lower Danube area (cat 109) (Minchev 2008; Torbatov 2002 146-7; Torbatov 2001 46-8; Vladimirova 1985; Ocheșeanu 1984).

The lack of precise information concerning the finding place can be compensated by an internal analysis and by means of comparison with the numismatic material available from the region. A number of arguments presented below lead to the hypothesis that most of the coins can be localized to a place or a number of places close to the sea coast. The classification based on the presence of different mints in the collection ranks Thessalonica below Nicomedia, which is characteristic to the settlements close to the seacoast. Except for Tomis (Ivoranu, Poenaru Bordea 2003 155-8), other important centers close to the sea shore, such as Argamum (Iacob, Poenaru Bordea 2000 791), Callatis (Poenaru Bordea and Alii 1998 102), Accres Castellum (Parušev 1991 32-6), Mesembria (Theoklieva-Stoytcheva 2001), Ahtopol (Iordanov and Alii 1998 71-4), as well as the collection of the Museum in Constantza (Poenaru Bordea and Alii 2004) provide more coins from Nicomedia than Thessalonica. Conversely, as one moves away to the west, the mint of Thessalonica becomes more and more present among finds. The difference can be noted even within the province of Scythia; some of the most important fortresses on the Danube such as Noviodunum, Carsium, and Sacidava (Gândilă 2003-2005 130-144) provide an important number of coins minted in Thessalonica. However, one notable exception in this respect is Capidava (Gândilă 2006-2007 110).

Another factor pointing to the same hypothesis regarding the finding place is the structure of denominations. There is an unusual number of pentanummia and decanummia present in the collection, a situation found almost exclusively in the major urban centers of the Black Sea coast, as testified by coin finds from Tomis (Ivoranu, Poenaru Bordea 1984).

Ahtopol (Iordanov and Alii 1998 75). In the center of the province and along the Danube most of the finds are comprised of folles and half-folles, with the notable exception of Ibida, which is also the largest inland town of the province (Iacob 2009 70, table IV)

The third argument would be the large number of late sixth – early seventh century issues. The only parallel can be found, again, on the sea coast, in towns such as Tomis, Callatis, Accres and even southward, at Mesembria and Ahtopol. In the rest of the province the coin flow decreased during the reign of Maurice and Phocas, while issues dated to the reign of Heraclius are quite scarce (Gândilă 2008 310). There is convincing evidence that, while the Danube sector was abandoned by the Byzantine administration, a number of settlements situated along the Black Sea coast continued to be under Byzantine control well into the seventh century (Damian 2004).

When first brought to my attention and before they were cleaned by the owner I noticed that some of the coins had a similar patina and, more importantly, all of them were small denominations spanning the reigns of Justin II to Heraclius. Below is a brief description of the coins involved, with the numbers taken from the catalogue assembled at the end of this paper:

38. Justin II,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. A, 565-578.
39. Justin II,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. A, 565-578.
41. Justin II,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. Δ, 565-578.
42. Justin II,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. Δ, 565-578.
44. Justin II,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. Δ, 565-578.
45. Justin II,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. +, 565-578.
47. Justin II,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Nicomedia, 565-578.
48. Justin II,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Nicomedia, 565-578.
59. Tiberius II,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, 578-582.
80. Phocas,  $\frac{1}{4}$  follis, Constantinople, 602-610.
81. Phocas,  $\frac{1}{4}$  follis, Constantinople, 602-610.
84. Phocas,  $\frac{1}{4}$  follis, Constantinople, 602-610.
83. Phocas,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, 602-610.
82. Phocas,  $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, 602-610.
85. Phocas,  $\frac{1}{2}$  follis, Cyzic, off. A, 602-603.
92. Heraclius,  $\frac{1}{2}$  follis, Constantinople, off. Δ, 611-612.

Eight coins are pentanummia issued in the name of Justin II, most of them from Constantinople. Their presence is not uncommon in the Lower Danubian provinces and they are found particularly in urban centers (Gândilă 2008 322). However, the later specimens from this potential hoard are very rare among single finds in Scythia. Only three decanummia and one pentanummium from Phocas have been found so far in the entire province (out of c. 3000 early Byzantine coins), close to the sea shore, at Tomis (Isvoranu and Poenaru Bordea 2003 158) and Tufani (Vertan and Alii 1999 357), and in the southern part of the province, at Odartsi (Torbatov 2002 129). In comparison, this assemblage alone contains four decanummia and one pentanummium (out of 95 coins), which is certainly an anomaly. To push the comparison even further, such coins are rare across the Empire: Sagalassos (Scheers 1995 314), Pisidian Antioch<sup>1</sup>, and Sardis (Bates 1971 88-89) in Anatolia, and Salamis in Cyprus (Callot 2004:52-3) are among the few centers which continued to receive lower denominations,  $\frac{1}{4}$  folles and even  $\frac{1}{8}$  folles.

<sup>1</sup> I wish to thank Dr. Zeliha Demirel Gökalp from Anadolu University for allowing me to consult the unpublished catalogue of finds from Pisidian Antioch.

It should be accepted that the frontier region had an urban market less developed than the major centers of the empire in Greece, Anatolia, and the Syria-Palestine - most importantly Athens (Thompson 1954 67-76), Corinth (Edwards 1937 241-56), Sardis (Bell 1916 76-95; Bates 1971; Buttrey 1981 204-27), Antioch (Waage 1952 148-64), Berytus (Butcher 2001-2002 102-12), Caesarea Maritima (de Rose Evans 2006 180-203), and Constantinople (Hendy 1986 278-313). However, this is not a general rule applicable to all major centers; Gerasa (Bellinger 1938; Marot 1998) and Pella (Sheedy 2001 129-45) are two examples where very few lower denominations have been found so far during archaeological excavations and surveys. Among other aspects, a less developed market in Scythia means a lesser quantity of petty currency used in frequent daily transactions. The presence of many specimens of this type in the collection favors the hypothesis that we are in fact dealing with a hoard or at least part of a hoard. The assumption that what we have here is not the entire hoard can be substantiated by the fact that not even one specimen from Maurice Tiberius is included in the list, although we might have expected at least a few specimens to fill the time gap between Tiberius II and Phocas. There is, however, an analogy among the hoards from the Balkans. The hoard found at Politika Psachna in Greece has a gap corresponding to the reign of Maurice (Morrison and Alii 2006 n. 180).

Like the rest of the collection, the hoard itself is probably originating from one of the major urban centers of the province situated on the sea coast. The large number of issues from Phocas and even Heraclius is characteristic to this area still kept under control by the Empire after the chain of fortifications along the Danube was abandoned in the first decades of the seventh century. Such a hoard of small denominations is a sign of a still functional monetary economy in the area where it was found. All coins were issued in Constantinople, Nicomedia, and Cyzic - the most common mints among early Byzantine coin finds in Scythia (Gândilă 2008 321). Consequently, there is a high chance that the coins were circulating in the region and were not brought as a group by a merchant or traveler from a more distant province of the Empire, as seems to be the case for the hoards found at Topalu (Dimian 1957 191-2) and Adamclisi (Bogdan Cătăniciu, Poenaru Bordea 1996-1997 85-95). However, given its structure, an origin in Anatolia cannot be completely eliminated as a hypothesis, although the proportion of mints is slightly different in the case of some major Turkish sites and public collections such as Sardis (Bates 1971 5), Amaseia (Ireland 2000 101-109), Amasra (Ireland, Atesogullari 1996 132-35), and Side (Atlan 1976 77-93). Most significantly, the oriental mint of Antioch is generally more present among finds from Anatolia compared to the Balkans. Moreover, the lack of any coins minted in Antioch in the small hoard discussed here eliminates the possibility of an origin in the Middle East. By way of comparison, a similar hoard of smaller denominations closing in the early seventh found in the region of Aleppo in Syria contains a large number of issues from Antioch, over 50 percent of the total (Mansfield 2003). If sought outside Scythia, an origin from the circulating medium of Constantinople seems the most probable, given the structure of coin finds resulted from the excavations of Sarayhane and Kalenderhane in Istanbul (Hendy 1986; Hendy 2007) most of them being small denominations, both in single finds and hoards. In such a potential scenario a Constantinopolitan merchant or a traveller visiting one of the large centers on the Black Sea coast might have accidentally or purposefully left behind this small sum of money.

It is impossible to make any fully substantiated proposition regarding the moment when the coins were concealed and the reason behind its definitive loss by the owner. However, it should be noted that this is the second known hoard in the Balkans containing small denominations from the reign of Phocas, the other being a similar hoard found in Constantinople during the excavations at Kalenderhane (Hendy 2007 274, hoard T). Judging by

its closing date, at the beginning of Heraclius' reign, the small accumulation found in Scythia can be associated chronologically with other hoards in the Balkans ending during the same years, such as the ones found at Caričin Grad (613), Varna (614) (Lazarenko 1998-1999), Sofia (615), Politika-Psachna (616), and Solomos (620) (Morrisson and Alii 2006). The presence of such hoards has been primarily ascribed to the military operations initiated by the Slavs and the Avars in the second decade of the seventh century (Morrisson and Alii 2006). It would be tempting to follow the same explanation for our small deposit, but the rather insignificant total value of the coins involved, representing 165 nummia (i.e. a little over three folles) prevents us from making any assumptions in that direction. Indeed, more significant is the very presence of such a unique hoard of small denominations in a peripheral region and at a time when they were becoming extremely scarce throughout the empire.

## CATALOGUE

1. Anastasius I  
AE ↓ 14.14g, 34.9x33mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
MIBE 27, y. 512-517.  
½ follis, Constantinople, off. €  
MIBE 19, 522-527.
2. Anastasius I  
AE ↓ 16.78g, 32x31.2mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. B  
MIBE 27, y. 512-517.  
9. Justin I  
AE ↓ 2.29g, 13mm  
¼ follis, Nicomedia  
MIBE 46, y. 522-527.
3. Anastasius I  
AE ↓ 16.24g, 32.7x31.2mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. €  
MIBE 27, y. 512-517.  
10. Justin I / Justinian I  
AE ↓ 1.67g, 12mm  
⅛ follis, Constantinople  
MIBE 32 or 93, y. 522-538.
4. Anastasius I  
AE ↓ 7.33g, 26.3x25.8mm  
½ follis, Constantinople, off. A  
MIBE 33, y. 512-517.  
11. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 13.80g, 30x29mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
MIBE 84, y. 527-537.
5. Justin I  
AE ↓ 17.63g, 31.7x30.7mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
MIBE 11, y. 518-522.  
12. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 7.76g, 22.15x20.75mm  
½ follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
MIBE 90, y. 527-537.
6. Justin I  
AE ↓ 14.43g, 31.5x28.5mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. A  
MIBE 12, y. 522-527.  
13. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 8.74g, 26.5x22.8mm  
½ follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
MIBE 90, y. 527-537.
7. Justin I  
AE ↓ 16.24g, 30.2mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
MIBE 12, y. 522-527.  
14. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 6.42g, 21.1x20.1mm  
½ follis, Constantinople  
MIBE 90, y. 527-537.
8. Justin I  
AE ↓ 7.24g, 26.3x25mm  
15. Justinian I  
AE ↑ 22.67g, 40.3x39.7mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. €  
MIBE 95a, y. 541-542.

16. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 3.88g, 20.5mm  
¼ follis, Constantinople  
MIBE 99, y. 542-543.
17. Justinian I  
AE ↗ 18.06g, 31.2x30.7mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. A  
MIBE 95a, y. 544-545.
18. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 17.18g, 35.5x34.8mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. E  
MIBE 95a, y. 544-545.
19. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 12.83g, 33.2x32.2mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
MIBE 95a, y. 549-550.
20. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 3.33g, 21.1x19.6mm  
¼ follis, Constantinople  
MIBE 99, y. 549-550.
21. Justinian I  
AE ↑ 3.24g, 16.7x15.2mm  
¼ follis, Constantinople  
MIBE 99, y. 558-559.
22. Justinian I  
AE ↣ 12.86g, 32.2x29.75mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. B  
MIBE 95a, y. 559-560.
23. Justinian I  
AE ↑ 3.09g, 14.5x13.75mm  
¼ follis, Constantinople  
MIBE 99, y. 559-560.
24. Justinian I  
AE → 1.38g, 13.2x12.2mm  
¼ follis, Constantinople  
MIBE 99, after 556.
25. Justinian I  
AE ↣ 1.57g, 13.5mm  
¼ follis, Constantinople  
MIBE 99, y. 561-562  
Barbarous style.
26. Justinian I  
AE ↑ 3.95g, 18mm  
¼ follis, Nicomedia  
MIBE 118a, y. 558-559.
27. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 21.52g, 40.6x39.8mm  
Follis, Cyzic, off. A  
MIBE 120a, y. 539-540.
28. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 8.63g, 25.1x24.5mm  
½ follis, Cyzic  
MIBE 121a, 546-547.
29. Justinian I  
AE ↑ 7.82g, 25.1x22.75mm  
½ follis, Antioch, off. Δ  
MIBE 134, y. 529-531/2.
30. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 18.12g, 34.6x33.6mm  
Follis, Antioch, off. Δ  
MIBE 146, y. 553-554.
31. Justinian I  
AE ↓ 5.72g, 24.5x22.6mm  
½ follis, Thessalonica  
MIBE 180, y. 563-564.
32. Justin II  
AE ↓ 15.5g, 30x28mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. A  
MIB II 43a, y. 566-567.
33. Justin II  
AE ↣ 13.60g, 28.5x26.5mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. B  
MIB II 43a, y. 567-568.
34. Justin II  
AE ↓ 5.68g, 25.6x22.6mm  
½ follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
MIB II 44a, y. 567-568(?)
35. Justin II  
AE ↓ 13.56g, 30.5x27.8mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. A  
MIB II 43c, y. 570-571.
36. Justin II  
AE ↓ 14.77g, 30x27.8mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
MIB II 43d, y. 570-571.
37. Justin II  
AE ↗ 14.45g, 29x26mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. E  
MIB II 43a, y. 570-571.

38. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 1.61g, 16.25x12.25mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. A  
 MIB II 45, y. 565-578.
39. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 1.44g, 17.5x14.1mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. A  
 MIB II 45, y. 565-578.
40. Justin II  
 AE ↑ 1.79g, 14mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. B  
 MIB II 45, y. 565-578.
41. Justin II  
 AE ↑ 0.82g, 15x13.2mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
 MIB II 45, y. 565-578.
42. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 1.54g, 13.25x12.45mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
 MIB II 45, y. 565-578.
43. Justin II  
 AE ↑ 1.49g, 14.6x13.8mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
 MIB II 45, y. 565-578.
44. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 1.57g, 15x13.65mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
 MIB II 45, y. 565-578
45. Justin II  
 AE ↑ 1.83g, 15.71x14.2mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople, off. +  
 MIB II 45, y. 565-578
46. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 9.84g, 31.45x26.7mm  
 Follis, Nicomedia, off. A  
 MIB II 46b, y. 570-571.
47. Justin II  
 AE ↑ 1.84g, 13.85x12mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Nicomedia  
 MIB II 49, y. 565-578.
48. Justin II  
 AE ↑ 1.34g, 12mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Nicomedia  
 MIB II 49, y. 565-578.
49. Justin II
- AE ↑ 7.33g, 20.3x19.4mm  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  follis, Cyzic  
 MIB II 51b, y. 573-574.
50. Justin II  
 AE ↑ 6.19g, 22.5mm  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  follis, Cyzic  
 MIB II 51b, y. 573-574.
51. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 5.28g, 25.5x17.85mm  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  follis, Thessalonica  
 MIB II 68, y. 568-569.
52. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 4.78g, 21.3x19.3mm  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  follis, Thessalonica  
 MIB II 68a, y. 569-570.
53. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 5.72g, 20.7x17.7mm  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  follis, Thessalonica  
 MIB II 68a, y. 569-570.
54. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 5.41g, 23.2x20.4mm  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  follis, ?  
 MIB II , y. 569-570.
55. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 4.18g, 23.25x19.75mm  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  follis, Thessalonica, Θ+C  
 MIB II 70e, y. 574-575.
56. Justin II  
 AE ↓ 5.16g, 22x19.7mm  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  follis, Thessalonica, M  
 MIB II 70b, y. 569-578.
57. Tiberius II Constantine  
 AE ↓ 16.11g, 36.5x34.6mm  
 Follis, Constantinople, off. B  
 MIB II 25, y. 578-579
58. Tiberius II Constantine  
 AE ↑ 7.68g, 32.2x29.75mm  
 Follis, Constantinople  
 MIB II 25, y. 579-580.
59. Tiberius II  
 AE ↑ 1.22g, 15.2x13.8mm  
 $\frac{1}{8}$  follis, Constantinople  
 MIB II 33, y. 578-582.

60. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↑ 10.16g, 30.5x28.9mm  
 Follis, Constantinople, off. B  
 MIB II 67d, y. 585-586.
61. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 11.73g, 31x29mm  
 Follis, Constantinople, off. C  
 MIB II 67d, y. 586-587.
62. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 5.58g, 21.6x20.8mm  
 ½ follis, Constantinople, off. A  
 MIB II 70d, y. 586-587.
63. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↘ 4.74g, 23.4x19.75mm  
 ½ follis, Constantinople, off. B  
 MIB II 70d, y. 588-589.
64. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↗ 3.32g, 21x19mm  
 ½ follis, Constantinople, off. B  
 MIB II, 70d, y. 590-591.
65. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↙ 4.87g, 20x18mm  
 ½ follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
 MIB II 70, after 591.
66. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 11.16g, 29.6x26.75mm  
 Follis, Constantinople, off. B  
 MIB II 67d, y. 593-594.
67. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↑ 4.91g, 23.5x21.15mm  
 ½ follis, Constantinople, off. Ε  
 MIB II 70d, y. 599-600.
68. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 9.75g, 32.6x31.6mm  
 Follis, Nicomedia, off. A  
 MIB II 75d, y. 588-589.
69. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 4.20g, 22.9x21.2mm  
 ½ follis, Nicomedia, off. B  
 MIB II 80d, y. 591-592.
70. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 4.13g, 21x20mm  
 ½ follis, Nicomedia, off. B  
 MIB II 80d, y. 591-592.
71. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↙ 4.96g, 23.9x18.33mm  
 ½ follis, Nicomedia, off. B  
 MIB II 80d, 596-597.
72. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 5.34g, 23.1x19.5mm  
 ½ follis, Thessalonica  
 MIB II 113d, y. 586-587.
73. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 5.20g, 20.7x19.6mm  
 ½ follis, Thessalonica  
 MIB II 113d, y. 587-588.
74. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 5.09g, 23.5x19.5mm  
 ½ follis, ?  
 MIB II, y. 588-589.  
 Overstruck.
75. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 5.70g, 22.4x19mm  
 ½ follis, Thessalonica  
 MIB II 113d, y. 601-602.
76. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 11.15g, 29.5mm  
 Follis, Antioch  
 MIB II 95b, y. 587-588.
77. Maurice Tiberius  
 AE ↓ 3.96g, 23.5x20.9mm  
 ½ follis, ?  
 MIB II, 584-585.
78. Phocas  
 AE ↙ 9.46g, 29.3x26.3mm  
 Follis, Constantinople, off. Γ  
 MIB II 61, y. 603-604 (?).
79. Phocas  
 AE ↓ 10.09g, 29.3x23.8mm  
 Follis, Constantinople  
 MIB II 61, y. 606-607  
 Overstruck on a follis of Maurice Tiberius,  
 Antioch, after 589.
80. Phocas  
 AE ↓ 3.45g, 19.6x16.1mm  
 ¼ follis, Constantinople  
 MIB II 66, y. 602-610.
81. Phocas  
 AE ↓ 4.01g, 20.9x16.8mm

- 1/4 follis, Constantinople  
MIB II 66, y. 602-610.
82. Phocas  
AE ↓ 2.89g, 20.5x17.25mm  
1/4 follis, Nicomedia (?)  
MIB II 74b, y. 602-610  
Overstruck on an earlier 1/2 follis  
The flan was cropped to meet the weight standard of the 1/4 follis.
83. Phocas  
AE ↑ 1.54g, 16.3x14.9mm  
1/8 follis, Constantinople  
MIB II 67, y. 602-610.
84. Phocas  
AE ↑ 1.88g, 13.8x12mm  
1/8 follis, Constantinople  
MIB II 67, y. 602-610.
85. Phocas  
AE ↓ 4.50g, 25x23mm  
1/2 follis, Cyzic, off. A  
MIB II 78, y. 602-603.
86. Phocas  
AE ↓ 10.71g, 30.8x28.9mm  
Follis, Cyzic, off. A  
MIB II 76, y. 607-608.
87. Phocas  
AE ↓ 9.62g, 32.4x28.3mm  
Follis, Cyzic, off. B  
MIB II 87, 607-608.
88. Phocas  
AE ↑ 4.60g, 20.4x19.8mm  
1/2 follis, Cyzic, off. B  
MIB II 80b, 606-610.
89. Phocas  
AE ↓ 8.75g, 26.10x27.5mm  
Follis, Antioch  
MIB II 83a, y. 609-610.
90. Heraclius  
AE ↓ 9.68g, 30.7x28.5mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. B  
MIB III 158, y. 610-611.
91. Heraclius  
AE ↓ 8.47g, 27x25.3mm  
Follis, Constantinople, off. A  
MIB III 159b, y. 612-613.
92. Heraclius  
AE ↓ 5.50g, 22.75x20.9mm  
1/2 follis, Constantinople, off. Δ  
MIB III 169, y. 611-612.
93. Heraclius  
AE ↓ 12.00g, 31.1x29.6mm  
Follis, Nicomedia, off. B  
MIB III 174, y. 610-613.
94. Heraclius  
AE ↓ 11.85g, 31x27.5mm  
Follis, Nicomedia, off. A  
MIB III 174, y. 612-613  
Overstruck.
95. Heraclius  
AE ↓ 9.89g, 29.6x28.2mm  
Follis, Nicomedia, off. A  
MIB III 175a, y. 613-616  
Overstruck on a previous follis from Nicomedia.
96. Michael I  
AE ↓ 5.67g, 22mm  
Follis, Constantinople  
DOC III/1, p. 369, y. 811.
97. Leon VI  
AE ↓ 6.96g, 24.5mm  
Follis, Constantinople  
DOC III/2, p. 516, y. 886-912.
98. Nikephor II  
AE ↓ 8.80g, 24.5x24mm  
Follis, Constantinople  
DOC III/2, p. 586, y. 963-969.
99. Basile II and Constantine VIII  
AE ↓ 10.7g, 30.1x26.4mm  
Anonymous follis, class A2  
DOC III/2, p. 671, n. A2.47, y. 976-1030/35.
100. Roman III  
AE ↓ 12.01g, 29.1x26.3mm  
Anonymous follis, class B  
DOC III/2, p. 677, y. 1030/35-1042.
101. Roman III  
AE ↓ 9.78g, 29.8x26.8mm  
Anonymous follis, class B  
DOC III/2, p. 679, y. 1030/35-1042.
102. Roman III  
AE ↓ 7.96g, 29x28.2mm  
Anonymous follis, class B

- DOC III/2, p. 679, y. 1030/35-1042.
103. Roman III  
AE ↓ 5.98g, 28x24mm  
Anonymous follis, class B  
DOC III/2, p. 679, y. 1030/35-1042.
104. Roman III  
AE ↓ 9.32g, 26mm  
Anonymous follis, class B  
DOC III/2, p. 679, y. 1030/35-1042.
105. Michael IV  
AE ↓ 8.19g, 29x26.3mm  
Anonymous follis, class C  
DOC III/2, p. 683, y. 1042-1050.
106. Michael IV  
AE ↓ 7.25g, 28x27.5mm  
Anonymous follis, class C  
DOC III/2, p. 683, y. 1042-1050.
107. Constantine X  
AE ↓ 8.12g, 25.7x24.3mm  
Follis, class 2  
DOC III/2, p. 777, y. 1059-1077.
108. Alexius I  
AE ↓ 5.14g, 24mm  
Anonymous follis, class K  
DOC III/2, p. 702, y. 1085-1092.
109. Coin weight  
AE, 16.79g  
N + Δ, four solidi  
Bendall, 144 var.**APPENDIX**

Table 1. The chronological sequence of dated coppers.

YEAR	NUMBER OF COINS/ NUMMIA/ MINT						
	CON	THE	NIC	CYZ	ANT	?	TOTAL
<b>498-507</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>507-512</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>512-518</b>	4/140	-	-	-	-	-	<b>4/140</b>
<b>518-527</b>	4/140	-	1/5	-	-	-	<b>5/145</b>
<b>527-532</b>	4/100	-	-	-	1/20	-	<b>5/120</b>
<b>538-539</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>539-540</b>	-	-	-	1/40	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>540-541</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>541-542</b>	1/40	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>542-543</b>	1/10	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/10</b>
<b>543-544</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>544-545</b>	2/80	-	-	-	-	-	<b>2/80</b>
<b>545-546</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>546-547</b>	-	-	-	1/20	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>547-548</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>548-549</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>549-550</b>	2/50	-	-	-	-	-	<b>2/50</b>
<b>550-551</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>551-552</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>552-553</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>553-554</b>	-	-	-	1/40	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>554-555</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>555-556</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>556-557</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>557-558</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>558-559</b>	1/10	-	1/10	-	-	-	<b>2/20</b>
<b>559-560</b>	1/40	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/40</b>

<b>560-561</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>561-562</b>	1/10	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/10</b>
<b>562-563</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>563-564</b>	-	1/20	-	-	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>564-565</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>565-566</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>566-567</b>	1/40	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>567-568</b>	2/60	-	-	-	-	-	<b>2/60</b>
<b>568-569</b>	-	1/20	-	-	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>569-570</b>	-	3/60	-	-	-	-	<b>3/60</b>
<b>570-571</b>	3/120	-	1/40	-	-	-	<b>4/160</b>
<b>571-572</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>572-573</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>573-574</b>	-	-	-	2/40	-	-	<b>2/40</b>
<b>574-575</b>	-	1/20	-	-	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>575-576</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>576-577</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>577-578</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>578-579</b>	1/40	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>579-580</b>	1/40	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>580-581</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>581-582</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>582-583</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>583-584</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>584-585</b>	-	-	-	-	-	1/20	<b>1/20</b>
<b>585-586</b>	1/40	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>586-587</b>	2/60	1/20	-	-	-	-	<b>3/80</b>
<b>587-588</b>	-	1/20	-	-	1/40	-	<b>3/60</b>
<b>588-589</b>	1/20	1/20	1/40	-	-	-	<b>3/80</b>
<b>589-590</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>590-591</b>	1/20	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>591-592</b>	-	-	2/40	-	-	-	<b>2/40</b>
<b>592-593</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>593-594</b>	1/40	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>594-595</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>595-596</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>596-597</b>	-	-	1/20	-	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>597-598</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>598-599</b>	1/20	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>599-600</b>	1/20	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>600-601</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>601-602</b>	-	1/20	-	-	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>602-603</b>	-	-	-	1/20	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>603-604</b>	1/40	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>604-605</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>605-606</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>
<b>606-607</b>	1/40	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>607-608</b>	-	-	-	2/80	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>608-609</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

<b>609-610</b>	-	-	-	-	1/40	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>610-611</b>	1/40	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/40</b>
<b>611-612</b>	1/20	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1/20</b>
<b>612-613</b>	1/40	-	1/40	-	-	-	<b>2/80</b>

Table 2. Mints.<sup>2</sup>

EMPEROR	MINT				
	CON	THE	NIC	CYZ	ANT
Anastasius I	4/100%	-	-	-	-
Justin I	4/80%	-	1/20%	-	-
Justinian I	15/71.43%	1/4.76%	1/4.76%	3/14.29%	1/4.76%
Justin II	14/56%	6/24%	3/12%	2/8%	-
Tiberius II	3/100%	-	-	-	-
Maurice	8/47.06%	3/23.53%	4/23.53%	-	1/5.88%
Phocas	6/50%	-	1/8.33%	4/33.33%	1/8.33%
Heraclius	3/50%	-	3/50%	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57/69.31%</b>	<b>11/6.53%</b>	<b>13/14.83%</b>	<b>9/6.95%</b>	<b>3/2.37%</b>
<b>SCYTHIA</b>	<b>60.89%</b>	<b>13.50%</b>	<b>15.60%</b>	<b>5.35%</b>	<b>3.62%</b>

Table 3. Denominations.

EMPEROR	DENOMINATIONS			
	M	K	I	E
Anastasius I	3/75%	1/25%	-	-
Justin I	3/60%	1/20%	-	1/20%
Justinian I	8/38.10%	6/28.57%	7/33.33%	-
Justin II	6/35.29%	9/52.94%	-	2/11.77%
Tiberius II	2/100%	-	-	-
Maurice	5/27.78%	13/72.22%	-	-
Phocas	5/71.43	2/28.57%	-	-
Heraclius	5/100%	-	-	-
?	-	-	-	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37/46.84%</b>	<b>32/40.50%</b>	<b>7/8.86%</b>	<b>3/3.80%</b>
<b>SCYTHIA</b>	<b>43.82%</b>	<b>38.46%</b>	<b>10.63%</b>	<b>6.64%</b>

Table 4. Coins/Nummia per year of reign.

Emperor	Coins	Coins/ year	%	Nummia/ year	%
Anastasius	4	0.2	3.58	7	3.98
Justin I	5	0.55	9.86	16.11	9.16
Justinian I	21	0.55	9.86	13.42	7.63
Justin II	17	1.30	23.30	33.07	18.80
Tiberius II	2	0.50	8.96	20	11.37

<sup>2</sup> The coins from the hoard are excluded from the statistical analysis, to avoid distorting the comparison with the single and stray finds from the entire province of Scythia. The results for Scythia are taken from Gândilă 2008 tables 3 and 5.

<b>Maurice</b>	18	0.9	16.13	23	<b>13.07</b>
<b>Phocas</b>	6	0.75	13.44	30	<b>17.05</b>
<b>Heraclius (610-616)</b>	5	0.83	14.87	33.33	<b>18.94</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	78	5.58	100	175.93	<b>100</b>

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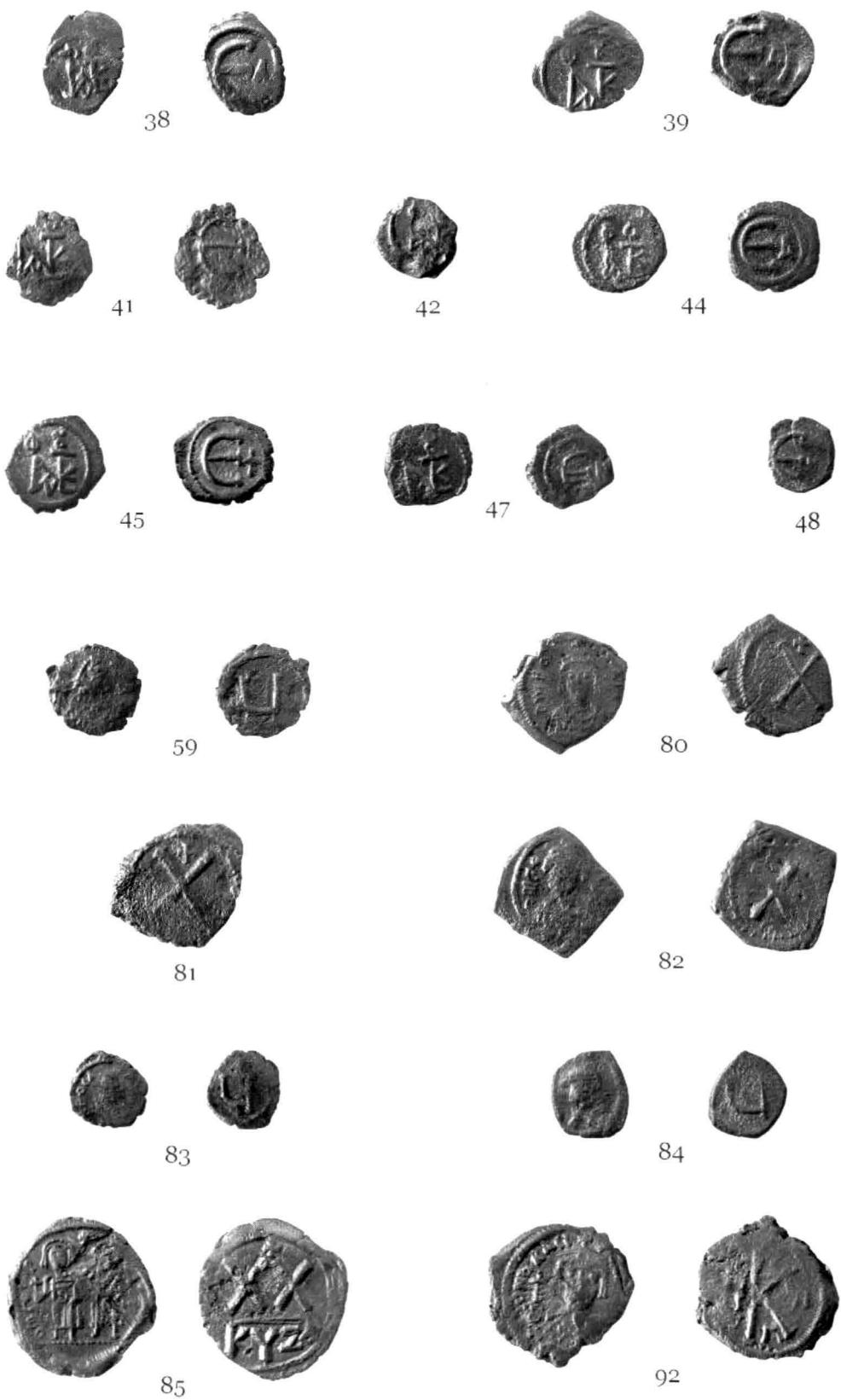


Plate 1



27



32



57



62



86



94



96



100



109



**Plate 2**