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San Diego, CA 92103, USA WWW.JOINGTORON 619 2990400 800 8542888 619 2996962 coms ponterão.com

USMexNA OFFICIALS

Executive Director and Editor Don Bailey, C-1 250 So. Lyon Av. #139, Hemet, CA 92543 (951) 652-7875, Fax (951) 929-1300, Cell (801) 550-1358

donbailey 98@yahoo.com

DIRECTORS:

Sal Falcone, C-3

1230 Lincoln Ave. San Jose, CA 95125 (408) 292-2221, Fax (408) 227-8291 Joe Flores, C-2

P. O. Box 4484 Stockton, CA 94204

(209) 462-0759, fax (209) 462-3157

E-mail pepef44@sbcglobal.net

(NEW E-MAIL)

Richard Ponterio, C-108

1818 Robinson Ave. San Diego, CA 92103 (619) 299-0400, Fax (619) 299-6952 E-mail coins@ponterio.com Stephen G. Searle, R-176

P. O. Box 68

Berkeley Hts. NJ 07922-0068

E-mail: ssearle@yahoo.com

JOURNAL OF MEXICAN NUMISMATIC STAFF:

Don Bailey, C-1, Editor Norma Dollries, R-446 Cory Frampton R-366 David Hughes, C-15 Mike Ontko, R-201

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Web Site: www.GrasshopperNet.com/USMexNA Web Master Verne R. Walrafen, C-4

SOCIEDAD NUMISMATICA DE MEXICO'S XLV INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC CONVENTION SET FOR SEPTEMBER 5 – 8, 2007

The next International Numismatic Convention of the Sociedad Numismatic de Mexico will be held at the Hotel Del Prado, Wednesday (Dealer setup), September 6 through Saturday, September 8th. For additional questions please contact the Sociedad at sonumex@snm.org.mx.

VIVA LA REVOLUTION By Joe Flores, C-2

1915 Oaxaca Un Peso

In the last Journal I wrote about a unique mule coin, a 1915 Oaxaca copper plain edge peso. This is another one with the same caliber of rarity as the last one, but a totally different coin and set of dies. This coin is a **Oax 87*** and is a rare coin on its' own. It is an R-4 for rarity not listed in the G. B. book **.

The obverse is the same bust as the Oax 35*, a 10 centavo bust, but struck on a silver peso 27-28mm planchet, as in photo #2.

The reverse of the coin is the Un peso side, as in photo #2.

The copper specimen is one of two 1915 copper plain edge coins that came from the Richard Long coin sale #84, March 1997, lot #100 and 101. This is lot #101 of that salethat came from a very well known collection. See photo #1.

I have not seen or heard of any other offerings of this off metal rare coin. This is possibly a unique coin.

- * La Ventana by Woodworth and Flores, 1988
- ** (G.B.) *Mexican Revolutionary Coinage*, 1913 1717, by Hugh S. Guthrie and Merrill Bothemley, 1976

Joe Flores C-2 P. O. Box 4484 Stockton, CA 95204 NEW E-Mail pepef44@sbcglobal.net





REV.

Photo #1 Unlisted Copper Oax. 87.5



MEXICAN AND BORDERLANDS NUMISMATIC RESEARCH REPOSITORY ESTABLISHED

The Mexican and Borderlands Numismatic Research Repository has been established by the West Texas Collection (WTC), at Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, in the heart of the southwest.

The repository was established in order that numismatic collectors and researchers may have a central point in which to deposit their years of collecting and research when the time comes to retire or in the handling of materials contained in estates of collectors and or researchers. The repository will make these important papers available to the whole numismatic field, as we believe this research is a vital part of history and worthy to be preserved and made available to future numismatists.

Collector's libraries, research papers, articles, photographs, and correspondence provide insight into history that gives life to the actual collections and it's this type of materials, as well as the collections that West Texas Collection seeks. Even though the WTC pertains mainly to the borderlands, all areas of Mexican numismatics will fit into the repository, as we hope to make this the focal point of Mexican numismatic research in the country. With the demographics as such, the WTC is the best location for a project of this sort.

This will give a gathering point that will hopefully prevent any more numismatic research papers from being destroyed unknowingly by heirs or executors as has happened in the past in two cases in Arizona where their records were inadvertently destroyed.

The West Texas Collection was established in 1974 as the archival and historical collection of the University. Material entered into the WTC cannot by law be sold or traded. Collections are housed in a secure, temperature controlled space in acid-free boxes and folders. The WTC has the equipment and facilities to handle the proper storage and display of collections. The WTC is a 501C.3 entity for tax purposes.

Three times a year, the WTC change displays in the WTC areas, which focus on various collections housed here, or on a particular theme.

Each collection, after it is processed, has a finding tool made for the benefit of the researcher. Efforts are underway to have these finding tools online in connection to the University's library catalog.

These collections include the Tom Meador collection on the Mexican Revolution of 1910 – 1920 and the border service during this period, known as the "Pancho Villa Collection", the Russ Todd collection which is the strongest collection of photographic real photo post card history of Mexico, with over 8,500 images, a vast collection covering the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient Railroad as well as an ephemera collection of how Mexico sold itself to the travel industry prior to 1940.

The Elmer Powell Collection contains a large number of examples of Mexican Revolutionary currency totaling 676 pieces, with many rare and unusual notes.

The Don Bailey Collection, at this time contains a large collection of Mexican Revolutionary coins, with presentations of all areas of the revolution, as well as some Mexican Historical documents from the revolution period. Bailey has made a commitment that his forty- five year accumulation of research files, notes and other ephemera collected over the years will go to the WTC's Mexican & Borderlands Numismatic Repository'

Further questions or concerns can be directed to Suzanne Campbell, the Curator of the WTC at <u>Suzanne.Campbell@angelo.edu</u>, or general questions can be directed to Elmer Powell at <u>ecp.adp@sbcglobal.net</u>, or Don Bailey at <u>donbailey_98@yahoo.com</u>.

West Texas Collection Angelo State University San Angelo, Texas

USMexNA Financial Report, 2006

Cash in bank 1/1/06		\$6,274.63
Income:		
Dues	\$3,121.00	
Advertising	\$1,300.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 550.00	\$4,971.00
		\$11,245.63
Expenses:		
Journal/Postage	\$3,407.18	
Other postage	\$ 257.72	
Supplies	\$ 303.79	
Dues ANA (3yrs)	\$ 108.00	<u>\$4,076.69</u>
Cash in bank, 12/31/06		\$7,168.94

THE MYSTIC TRIP OF A CHIHUAHUA FIVE CENTAVOS

By Lois & Don Bailey, c-10, C-1

I was found in a parking lot by my new owners, Lois and Don on a recent visit to the West Texas Collection at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas.

As I laid on the Bailey's dash board I felt the need to tell my story of how I ended by in this west Texas college town, where Zentner's Steak House has the best chicken fried steak in the world, according to Lois, who is a well known connoisseur of chicken fried steak around the country.

I began my voyage in 1915 in Chihuahua Mexico by the famous bandito/hero "Pancho Villa", who was the commander of the Division of the North of the Constitutional Army that was formed by the

First Chief' Carranza.

I was to have the engravers name's, Sevilla on the obverse and Salazar on the reverse. I was struck at the federal mint in Chihuahua and to be able to produce myself, and my brethren, they told us that they raided the vast hacienda of Don Luis Terrazas, who





My self, in all my glory in my younger years

was the Governor of the state and closely aligned with the federal government. They confiscated all the copper telephone and telegraph wire that makes up my body. I guess you can call it pay back time.

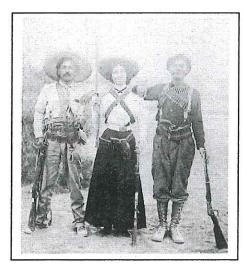
When I started out as shiny centavos at the Chihuahua mint and was in a bag full of my brothers and sisters that went with other bags of coins going to Alberto Francisco Pradeau, Paymaster of the Villa forces at the first battle at Celaya, arriving April 7, 1915 with the Constitutional brigades of Generals Elizondo and Gonzalez.

I was included in the pay of Jose Pasquel Rojas, a lowly foot soldier and "Villaista". As Jose's fellow troops traveled into the town of Torreón they were thirst for liquor and women, and I was burning a hole in his ragged trousers. They found the Rosarito Cantina. Jose used some five centavos for drinks, and then he saw the beautiful Rosa, a very attractive slender senorita, and in entertaining him she acquired me. She put me in her stocking for safekeeping.

Rosa had to give me to the owner of the cantina as his share of the profits. He in turn deposited me into the bank in Torreón, where I stayed until Villa rode in with his forces and made a loan from the bank. You have to call it a loan as Villa gave the bank president a receipt for the money's he received. He wouldn't think of robbing a bank. I was back on the road with Villa's forces.

I then ended up in the pay of Jose Flores, who after checking the coins for dates and varieties put me in his pocket, as they were on their way to raid Columbus New Mexico, March 9, 1916. Don't ask if Villa was actually there, as Jose didn't let me see the light of day. After that invasion of the United States the Villistas and I moved on to Casas Grandes. Then Jose and his fellow troops were on their way To Ciudad Juarez.

Following the Mexican Northwestern Railway they stopped at Yuzman, where Jose gave me to Carmen Orozco, a soldadera, who wanted to go to Texas to be with a previous customer, who had fled north earlier. Carmen stashed me away with what few coins she already had in order to get enough to pay the coyote to get her into Texas, where she ended up in San Angelo. The coyote only wanted gold or silver, not worn out copper coins, which offended me, so she kept me. Carman found employment in Miss Hattie's, and I became lost in the shuffle. When they started construction of the new dormitory I was turned up in the dirt and picked up by a worker who tossed me aside, close to the



Left. To right. Jose Flores, Carmen Orozco and a campañero

building housing the West Texas Collection, where the Bailey's rescued me from a uncertain future. How I have a new home, in a 2X 2 box reunited with my brothers and sisters.



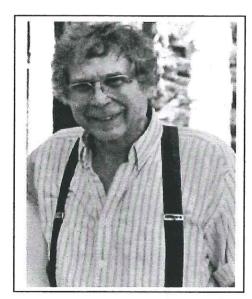
Miss Hattie's Bordello



The Madam's desk at Miss Hattie's

One final comment about this mystic trip is that when coins start talking to you, it time to cut down the number of long trips.

RICHARD A. LONG RETIRES



Richard Long, one of the major dealers of his time to specialize in Mexican coins, grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in geology from Michigan State University, than served in the US Army as a tank commander and later as a personnel specialist. After army service he again attended MSU, earning a Master of Science degree in geology. He began work on a doctorate at the University of Cincinnati, but with his four children beginning to come along, he had to discontinue his studies. He worked for four years with the US Geological Survey, but resigned in 1964 and began to deal in Mexican coins on a full-time basis.

In 1967 Dick was elected to the Board of Governors of the American Numismatic Association. He was appointed chairman of the, Museum Committee, and after visiting ANA headquarters in Colorado Springs to study the situation he recommended that they hire a full-time curator, offering to take the job himself. Developing the museum had been one of the four major goals of President Herbert Bergen, so they hired Dick, and he began work at the museum in 1971, with the title of Museum Director.

Unfortunately, a new ANA president took office at the same time, the only former Board Member who had been opposed to developing the Museum. He severely limited the work that could be done, not even allowing the purchase of display cases, and he insisted that Dick continue the former practice of the ANA allowing outrageously high appraisals on donations. Realizing that he was powerless to change what he felt were highly unethical practices, and that he was not to be allowed to develop the museum after all, Dick resigned from the ANA in 1973 and returned to dealing full-time in Mexican coins.

He is retiring this year (2007) after over 40 years in the business. His accomplishments include serving as both an elected and an appointed officer of the ANA, serving as an expert witness for the Federal Government in court trials, and issuing 199 price lists and 99 auction catalogs. While working at the ANA he wrote a five-part series on coin grading for The Numismatist, taught the course in Coin Grading at the annual ANA Summer Seminar, and assisted Virgil Hancock in teaching the course in Counterfeit Detection. And for nearly every year from the mid-1990's on he has taught courses in Mexican numismatics at the ANA Summer Seminar.

He has authored publications in several fields. As a geologist, he has two publications on ground water in the Gulf Coast area, and in the philatelic field he has a many-year series on Postmarks of Washington Territory, which he is now turning into a standard reference

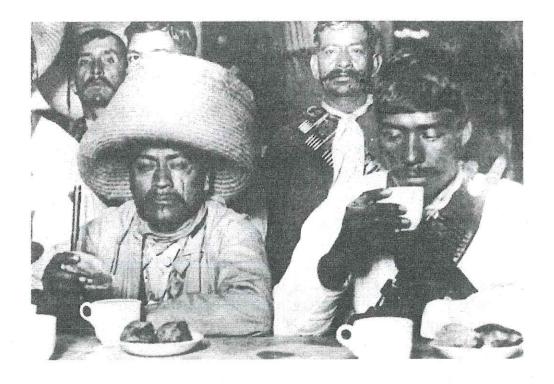
catalog.

Among his numismatic publications are two editions of <u>The Availability of 20th Century Mexican Coins</u>, his massive reference book on <u>Gold Coins of the Early Mexican Republic</u>, 60 issues of his <u>Mexican Market Forecast</u> newsletter, an 8-year illustrated series on early Mexican banknotes in <u>World Coins</u> magazine, plus numerous other articles and checklists.

Dick and his wife Jane live on 50 acres on the south coast of Oregon, where he enjoys cutting firewood, collecting stamps and butterflies, building model airplanes, reading the Russian language, wood carving, playing the banjo and the autoharp and watching old movies. He plays poker and is a Life Master at Duplicate Bridge.

Editor's personal note:

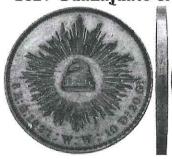
Dick and I have been around for a long time, collectively right at ninety years, coming into numismatics at about the same time, and think we have known each other all of this period. We both come from southern Michigan. Dick and Jane will be missed, as well as their auctions. GOOD LUCK YOU GUYS!!!



Zapata's soldiers having breakfast in Sanborn's "House of the tiles", circa 1914, photo Agustin V. Casasola

Pattern 8 Reales

1827 Guanajuato & 1882 Hermosillo





1827 Guanajuato Pattern 8 Reales Fig.1

Kent Ponterio, R-376

Among the most classic of Mexican pattern 8 Reales are the 1827 Guanajuato and 1882 Hermosillo, unique in their design and of exquisite beauty. The 1827 Guanajuato pattern was produced at the Royal Mint in London England by William Wyon, one of the most talented and noted engravers ever to work in England. It displays superior quality workmanship for the time, with its neatly detailed design, higher than normal relief and sharp strike. The lettering used in both the obverse and reverse legends are neatly cut and precise. Struck with a medallic die axis the piece bears a plain edge and has a very sharp upset rim with ornate denticles struck with the care and precision that is more reminiscent of contemporary English medals. It is undoubtedly struck with the state-of-the-art steam powered coining presses then available at the Royal Mint in London. Buttrey states that specimens were struck in London, the coins and dies were sent to Mexico in 1827. There they were seized by customs agents at the port of Veracruz, because they were in violation of the regulation that only the central mint at Mexico City could provide dies and matrices to the branch mints.









1882 Hermosillo Pattern 8 Reales

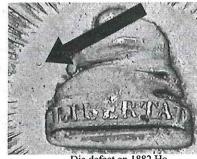
1880 Hermosillo 8 Reales circulation strike

The 1882 Hermosillo pattern bears the identical design to that of the 1827 Guanajuato pattern produced by William Wyon with the exception of the obverse legend. There are even identical defects within the dies which appear on both, most noticeably a small raised dot directly to the left of the liberty cap, however slightly less pronounced on the later. Some authors have assigned the Hermosillo pieces to being produced in England namely due to the origin of the dies, however their method of manufacture would suggest otherwise. Although the Hermosillo patterns strongly resemble the 1827 Guanajuato patterns there are several distinct differences. The first being the use of a milled edge identical to that of contemporary circulation strikes minted at the Hermosillo

mint. The Hermosillo pattern is stuck with a coin die axis and bears an obverse legend produced with identical punches used on contemporary Hermosillo 8 Reales between 1876 and 1880. The assayers initial J.A. are consistent with that of Jesus Acosta, Assayer at the Hermosillo mint from 1877-1883. There is evidence of the planchet shifting slightly during striking leaving somewhat diagonal flow lines in the metal most prominent in the obverse and reverse legends. This would point towards the Hermosillo pieces being struck with inferior minting equipment, not being held firmly in a colar as the Guanajuato pieces were. Evidence would suggest that an unfinished pair of William Wyon's original Guanajuato pattern dies (obverse legend omitted) or the hubs used to produce dies some how wound up in Hermosillo in the early 1880s and were then engraved with the pertinent information pertaining to the mint at that time. How and why this strange phenomenon occurred still remains somewhat of a mystery. It is possible that the confiscated dies in Veracruz somehow remained intact for fifty five years and somehow made there way to the Hermosillo mint where they then saw use. It is also possible that since the mint was at that time leased to Mr. Robert R. Symon of the English firm Symon & Cia that the old William Wyon dies were purchased and brought over from England and used to strike these fascinating patterns. The exact occurrence of events may never be fully known.



Die defect on 1827 Go Fig.4



Die defect on 1882 Ho Fig.5

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- Superior Stamp & Coin, June 1998 auction, The J.B. Parker collection.
- Christie's November 1985 auction, The Norweb collection.

CORROSION ON A MEXICO PILLAR DOLLAR By Hal Birt Jr., C32

There are four factors to consider when determining whether or not a 1732 to 1771 Mexico eight reales is genuine. The first is regular Mint artistry; the coin looks like other coins like itself. Second is weight and specific gravity analysis. Third is die stress, the, 2,500 per inch micro ridges in a fan pattern from the center towards the edge on a struck coin. Fourth is consensus of opinion.

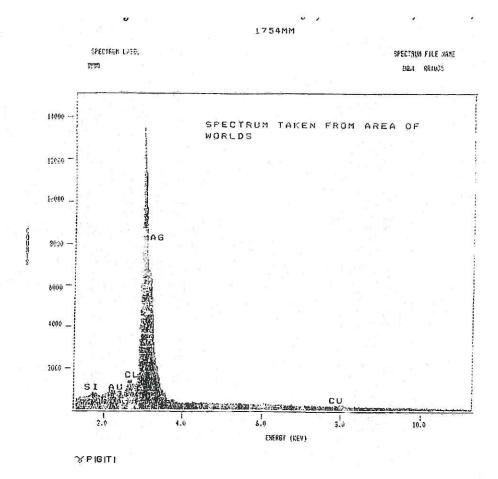
The specific gravity can be lowered when the coin has as little as 1% corrosion (10 microns deep). A scientist working with ancient coins in 1843 noticed the silver content appeared far below standard with specific gravity but normal when assayed. Earle R. Caley repeated this work in 1952 with the same results. This factor, not well known and not well understood, was tested with X-ray and scanning electron microscope. The sampling dept of about .6 micron showed 98.21% silver but the silver percentage fell back to 96.33% at approximately 3 microns. When the copper is leached out of the alloy it often represents ground burial.

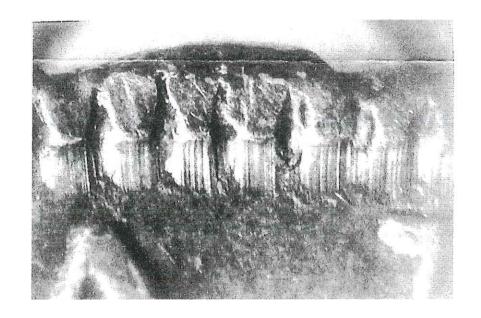
The test coin, a 1754 Mexico eight reales, had a specific gravity of 10.04 which would indicate an unacceptable level of silver at 75% whereas it should have been 10.3 plus for 91.7 % silver. The test coin did not match the description given by Caley in 1945 for a cast copy. The mold has two halves so there is a seam, the copy id usually ten percent lighter from the shrinkage of the cooling metal in the final mold.

A comparison of the copy to the original will show the striations do not transfer, the artistry is distorted, and the sprue (gate) has to be reengaged.

Corrosion is a mixture of silver oxide and impure silver chloride thrown together like paper clips with voids of air that cause buoyancy when submerged in the wet weight test of specific gravity. The test coin is now certified as genuine.

- Methods of Distinguishing Cast From Struck Coins, Earle R. Caley, Numismatic Review, April – June, 1945, pages 21 – 24
- Estimation Of Composition of Ancient Metal Objects, Earle R. Caley, Analytical Chemistry, Vol. 24, no. 4. April 1952, pages 676 –691



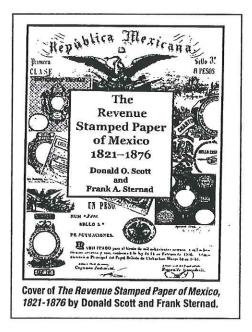


Mexican revenue stamped paper book compiles 20 years of research By Dale Pulver, Published in Linn's Stamp News, March 5, 2007

The new book *The Revenue Stamped Paper of Mexico*, 1821 - 1876, by Donald Scott and Frank Sternad, deals with a subject that has long puzzled serious collectors and for which little literature in the English language exists.

The book represents more than 20 years of research, organizing and writing.

What is stamped paper? Basically, it was a system of taxation. For more than 200 years in Mexico, documents concerned with the transfer of money, such as deeds, contracts, bills of lading, bills of exchange and wills had to be recorded on paper imprinted with a government seal to be considered legal and binding.



Such paper was purchased from the tax authorizes with the cost (tax) dependent on the nature of the transaction. Big sheets were for large, complicated transactions. Small ones were for lesser deals. This means of taxation was devised in Spain in 1636 (in Holland in 1624) and installed in the colonies.

Scott and Sternad confine their study to the period from the time of Mexican independence up to 1876 when the first adhesive revenue stamps were issued.

In Spanish, the paper is known as "renta papel sellado" (revenue stamped paper). Collectors of the classic stamps of Mexico encounter renta papel sellado early on with the emergency first design issue of 1867 printed on a thin, grayish paper watermarked "T.P.S." (Scott 42-45 and again on some of the papers used for the Hidalgo stamps of 1872 (81-86, 87-92).

The book is large, filling 367 pages. The various government imprints (seals) are pictured and discussed, as are the manufacture of paper, the papermakers, and the watermarks this paper bears. To give some idea of the scope of coverage, 91 pages illustrate imprint designs, 63 pages are devoted to catalog listings, and there are 166 watermark illustrations.

The whole system of taxation is thoroughly discussed, using clear, easy to understand tables showing the classes of document and their values.

I feel that the chapter titled "Papel Sellado; Its Place in History," the Spanish - English vocabulary, the glossary and the list of abbreviations would be useful to all serious

students of Mexican postal history. Even if you do not collect or plan to collect Mexican revenue stamped paper, these sections are almost worth the price of the book.

Also included is a conversion list for collectors who have used the Richard Byron Stevens revenue stamp catalog to classify their material. This catalog, *The Revenue Stamps of Mexico*, last updated in 1979, today is woefully out-of-date and incomplete.

The Revenue Stamped Paper of Mexico, 1821 - 1876 is available in two editions: one with all black-and-white pages except the color soft cover and a deluxe edition with 100 pages of high resolution illustrations and several interior color pages.

Both editions are in an 8 ½- by-11-inch format, perfect bound with a soft cover. The book's cover is shown nearby. The design features a collage of revenue stamped paper. The example shown to the right of Sternad's name includes an oval with an inscription that translate to "Counterfeiting papel sellado is punishable by death, noting same on this very same paper." They did not fool around in those days.

The black-and-white edition is \$50 to any address in the United States, and the deluxe edition is \$85.00. Write to Frank Sternad, Box 560, Fulton, CA 95439 or e-mail fsternad@sonic.net

I received the cheaper of the two editions as a review copy and find it fully adequate for my use, which I expect will be substantial, since I have a bundle of unsorted documents to organize

How many people collect the revenue stamped paper of Mexico? I don't know, but I would think it must be a small market. This leads to a second question, how can a book of this scoop and size be published for such a small market? The price is that it is published through a print on demand service.

With print-on-demand, there is no large up front investment, only the author's time and effort. Orders can be filled as they come in. In fact one of the authors told me that the printer can print and ship directly to the buyer.

I have no hesitation in giving this book a resounding thumbs up. It will be of great value to those who collect revenue stamped paper and even to those who do not but would like to know more.

THE MUNICIPAL COINS OF COLIMA

by Elwin C. Leslie

Seven municipal coins of Colima are listed and illustrated (No,106 - 112) in HACIENDA TOKENS OF MEXICO by O.P. Eklund and Sidney P Noe, ANS Monograph No.115. It is now known that more varieties than these seven do exist, and the purpose of this article is to list and illustrate all the type varieties and die-varieties known to the author.

Colima is a colonial town, having been founded in 1523 by 145 Spaniards led by Gonzalo de Sandoval under orders of Cortes, primarily as a base for obtaining precious metals. Originally it was given the name, SAN SEBASTIA in 1554. Philip II changed the name to VILLA DE SANTIAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS, but it soon reverted to VILLA DE COLIMA after the Indian word for the territory, COLLIMAN. Despite its isolated location it soon rose to become the third city in importance in New Spain.

A need for workers in the mines was fulfilled by charging Indians with rebellion or resistance and declaring them slaves. In addition, seizing large numbers of Indians and compelling them to serve as road builders and as porters for carrying supplies and ore between Colima and the mines and for obtaining and transporting food to Colima obtained forced labor. Over work and neglect took a tragic toll. Many of the Indians died in the in the mines or on the roads. Those that remained, completely broken in spirit and hope, practiced race suicide. Some Indian women refused to conceive, others disposed of their offspring before or after birth. The Indian population fell alarmingly.

In 1542 enslavement of Indians was prohibited by law, but the act came too late. In the valley around Colima only 20% of the population remained alive. The slavery act rang the death knell for the mines. As time went on, the land around Colima was gradually reclaimed as ranch and farm land. The town and the land started a slow but healthy regrowth.

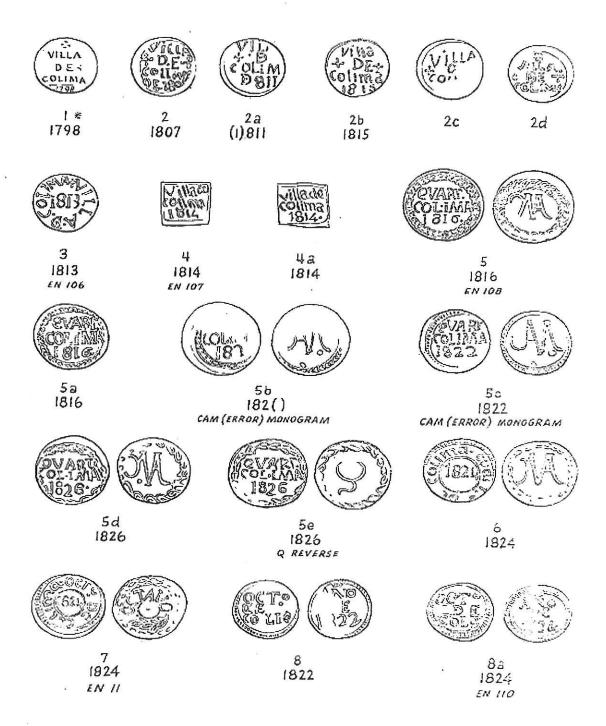
From 1810, when insurgents first entered the Villa of Colima, for a period of over 50 years, the town suffered continual occupations and changes of administration. It was during this period that most of the municipal coins were struck, and it is only consistent, therefore, that they should, by their very crudeness, reflect the troubled times.

The minting was obviously done by inexperienced workers, as most of the pieces are miserably struck. Consequently, the drawings, wherever possible, are composites of several specimens. In a few instances, coins were not available for examination and it was necessary to make drawings from rubbings. Some allowance must be made for mistakes or omissions in minor detail for some pieces marked with an asterisk. (*)

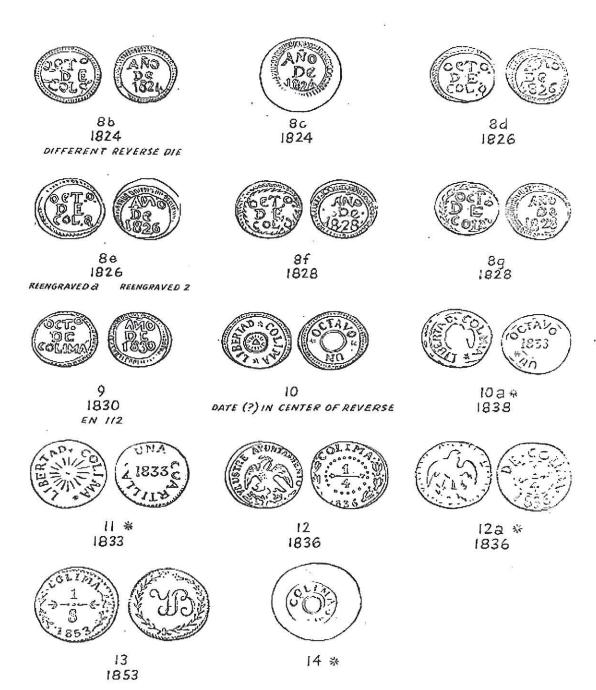
The author will welcome any corrections or additions to this list. Thanks are expressed to Benny Nibert and to Donald Garretson for submitting coins for examination, and to Howard Gibbs for rubbings.

Reprinted from Plus Ultra, Volume VI, Number 43 (Early 1980's).

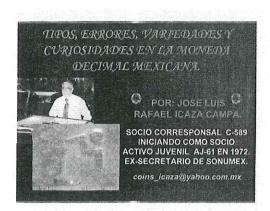
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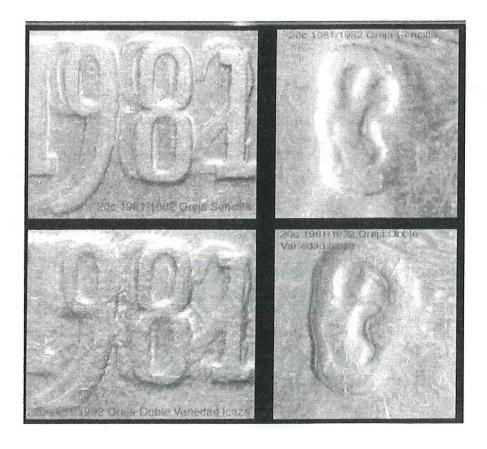


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Ads, Listings, and error corrections can be submitted direct to the coordinator, David Hughes, PO Box 596, Davis, CA, 95616, or david_hughes@dot.ca.gov for collection, editing and submittal to the Journal.

Trade: Collector is interested in 20th century Mexican coins. Have U.S. 20th century coins, lower grades, for trade. Jim Schneiderman jim@evans-mfg.com

Want to Buy: Circulating counterfeit Mexican coinage before 1840. Also, Gem Uncirculated Pillar Dollars of all dates 1732-1773. David Wnuck dave@CoinRaritiesOnline.com

Information: I am collecting information on the Sevilla-Villa medal as described by Joe Flores in the Revolutionary Corner. I am especially interested in any examples that have engraving on the blank (reverse) side, as well as a census of known pieces. This is for a future article in the Journal. David Hughes, PO Box 596, Davis, CA, 95616, or david hughes@dot.ca.gov



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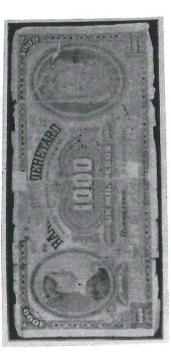
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