



**Bulgarian
Numismatic
Journal**

**EXCAVATION COINS FROM HERACLEA
SINTICA, SEASON 2025: PART 1.
THE NECROPOLIS**

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МОНЕТНИ НАХОДКИ ОТ ХЕРАКЛЕЯ СИНТИКА,
СЕЗОН 2025: ЧАСТ 1. НЕКРОПОЛЪТ

ХРИСТИНА ИВАНОВА-АНАПЛИОТИ

DOI: 10.60053.bulgnej.2026.4.1.45-55



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<https://bulgnj.com>

ISSN: 2815-4827

Excavation Coins from Heraclea Sintica, Season 2025: Part 1. The Necropolis

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Монетни находки от Хераклея Синтика, сезон 2025: Част 1. Некрополът

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Abstract: This report includes an overview of the numismatic material found during the rescue excavation of the Western necropolis in Heraclea Sintica during 2025, consisting of 255 coins.

Keywords: Coin finds, Heraclea Sintica, Season 2025, Necropolis.



In 2025, the research campaigns in Heraclea Sintica, conducted under the direction of Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Vagalinski, started as a rescue excavation in the Western necropolis caused by construction activity,¹ and continued as regularly planned in the forum. Due to the large quantity of finds, the numismatic report will be split into two parts. The present first part focuses on the findings from the necropolis area. The second one will concentrate on those from the forum. The latter will be published in an upcoming issue of this journal.²

The material presented here comprises a total of 19 silver denominations (including two *denarii* and all rest *antoniniani* from the second part of the 3rd c. AD), 236 copper alloy/bronze specimens (one late classical, 30 Hellenistic, two Roman republican, 52 Roman/pre-Tetrarchy, of which 44 are provincial, four imperial, and four uncertain; 150 were Late Antique, one was undatable).

All 255 coins³ come from 59 graves located in the south part of the investigated area and its

¹ The results of the research will be published in the Археологически открития и разкопки/ Archaeological Discoveries and Excavations series by the National Archaeological Institute with Museum in Sofia for the year 2025.

² These should be seen as a continuation of the reports started in 2025, see Ivanova-Anaplioti 2025.

³ While the coins from the area "Chervenite skali" (in English, "Red Rocks") have field inventory numbers (FIN/ПИН no.) 2385-2493 according to the field inventory book, this report also includes three coins without a number from the area "Kompresorna stantsiya" (in English, "Compressor station"). Also, two of the

immediate surroundings. While many coins are single finds, several hoards were also presented – two can be identified as Hellenistic, three as Roman imperial and ten as Late Antique. This distribution is because of the sepulchral character of the zone. The funerary context also gives us a different perspective on the circulating numismatic material, particularly on the selection of coins by the local population for ritual purposes. This new data will allow us to comprehend how fractional the statistics of finds in public and residential areas in Heraclea Sintica are.

Hellenistic and Roman Republican Coins

The earliest coin found is a Late Classical bronze from Philippi of the Heracles/tripod type, known from the Drama hoard and dated 356–345 BC,⁴ placing it close to the beginning of the Hellenistic period. It is followed chronologically by two bronzes of Alexander the Great dated ca. 323–310 BC (**Fig. 1**; Gaebler 1935, 173, no. 2, pl. XXXI, fig. 34; Pella online Price 374⁵), and by one specimen probably to be attribution to Antigonos Gonatas, i.e. belonging to the second quarter of the 3rd century BC (Gaebler 1935, 189, no. 15, pl. XXXIV, fig. 11).

A type attributed to the reign of Philip V or Perseus, or to Amphipolis around 187–168 BC, depicting the river god Strymon and a trident, may represent one of the earliest Hellenistic civic issues at the site (for Amphipolis, see Gaebler 1916, 34, no. 28, pl. IX fig. 3; for Philip V and Perseus, see Gaebler 1906, 35, no. 49, pl. I, fig. 23; 36, no. 58, pl. I, fig. 24; Gaebler 1935, p. 2, no. 14, pl. II, fig. 25.). Amphipolis is represented at least once by the type with a bust of Artemis and Artemis Tauropolos (Gaebler 1935, 37, no. 53, pl. IX, fig. 27). Six further bronzes are presumably from the same mint, identified by partly preserved legends or quadruped on the reverse. Pella is attested by two bronzes with Pan's head to the right and Athena Alkidemos wielding a spear (**Fig. 2**; Gaebler 1935, 94, no. 4, pl. XVIII, fig. 27), and the type with the head of Athena Parthenos and a grazing bull (**Fig. 3**; Gaebler 1935, 96, no. 14, pl. XIX, fig. 4⁶). Thessalonike, on the other hand, is attested by the type with the head of Zeus and an eagle on thunder (**Fig. 4**; Gaebler 1935, 120, no. 16, pl. XXIII, fig. 7), and the type with the head of Athena and a horse prancing (**Fig. 5**; Gaebler 1935, 118, no. 2, pl. XXII, fig. 24). Other types appearing once are either Zeus or Poseidon/prow (Gaebler 1935, 120, no. 18, pl. XXIII fig. 12. 121, no. 22, pl. XXIII, fig. 13) and Zeus/bull (Gaebler 1935, 118, no. 6, pl. XXII fig. 28). Two additional coins might also be attributed to this mint, although their identification remains uncertain. A further eight coins can only be dated broadly to the Hellenistic period, based on minor details that correspond to the iconography stylistic conventions of the era, or on diagnostic features such as the weight, size and flan shape.

At the same time, issues authorized by the Roman Republic circulated in the region and were also recovered from the necropolis. One example is an issue of Gaius Publius Tamios from 148–146 BC, depicting the head of Roma and a legend in a wreath (Gaebler 1906, 66, no. 203 or 204, pl. II, fig. 8⁷). Another coin of this quaestor, struck at Pella and found in the area of the “Kompre-sorna stantsiya”, shows the head of Athena on the obverse and a grazing horse on the reverse (Gaebler 1906, 68, no. 210; Gaebler 1935, 8 no. 4, pl. XII fig. 21). The latest pre-imperial coin dates to 42–37 BC and was issued in Thessalonike or Pella for Marc Anthony (and Octavian?), featuring Eleutheria and Nike (compare RPC I online 1545. 1551⁸).

Roman Provincial Coins

The provincial coinage is represented exclusively by issues of Macedonia and the surround-

inventoried items were disqualified as coins after restoration.

⁴ ANS Mantis online 1944.100.12611: <https://numismatics.org/collection/1944.100.12611> [27.03.2026].

⁵ <https://numismatics.org/pella/id/price.374> [27.03.2026].

⁶ The same type appears also in Thessalonike (Gaebler 1935, p. 119 n. 12, pl. XXIII n. 3), earlier in Pella from 187 BC, but for the region Bottiaea see Gaebler 1935, p. 4. n. 29, pl. XII n. 16, like the issues soon after 148 BC for the Roman quaestor Gaius Publius, see Gaebler 1935, p. 8 n. 4, pl. XII n. 21.

⁷ The dating of Gaebler to 148–146 BC is not accepted by Pierre MacKay (MacKay 1968, 10-11) who pushes it back to 168–167 BC, between the victory of Lucius Aemilius Paulus over Perseus in 168 BC and his return in 167 BC. Martin Price and Michael Crawford tend towards the later dating, discussed by Theodoros Kourempantas (Kourempantas 2017, 914).

⁸ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/48255> [27.03.2026]; <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/48249> [27.03.2026].

ings. The rarest specimens include a coin presumably of Heraclea Sintica itself, showing the Macedonian shield, and dated to the first half of the 2nd century AD (RPC III online 667A⁹), a pseudo-autonomous issue of Amphipolis from the type Athena/bull grazing (RPC I online 1644¹⁰), and one of Edessa dated to AD 14–37, according to the depicted Tiberius on the obverse and Augustus on the reverse (RPC I online 1521¹¹). Also, there is one coin with Domitian that could be identified as a type either of the Thessalian koinon or by Prusias ad Hypium.¹² They are followed by Dium with an uncertain Claudius and Roma (RPC I online 1507¹³), and a certain Gordian III with Jupiter dated AD 238–244 (RPC VII.2 online 66¹⁴). From Stobi originate three coins – one under Vespasian¹⁵, one under Trajan with Tyche (RPC III online 601¹⁶). Another one shows a temple and can be attributed to one of the two mentioned emperors, either Vespasian or Trajan¹⁷. Thessalonica is represented by only three specimens: a coin issued under Tiberius with Livia, dated to AD 14–23 (Touratsoglou 1988, 156-158, no. 1–32; RPC I online 1568¹⁸), a pseudo-autonomous coin with a horse and a legend from Neronian times around AD 54–68 (RPC I online 1607¹⁹), and an issue for Otacilia Severa with Apollo under Philip I from AD 244–245 (**Fig. 6**; RPC VIII online, unassigned, ID 68983²⁰). Eight coins are attributed to Philippi: one is with the head of Augustus and the *sulcus primigenius* scene (RPC I online 1656²¹); five are of the Claudian/Neronian Victory/standards type (Gaebler 1935, p. 102–103, no. 14–15, pl. XX, fig. 10; RPC I online 1651²²), and another one is an imitation of this type; the last one is of Trajan, with a statues of August and Divus Julius (RPC III online 661²³). The Macedonian koinon, as usual, is dominant represented by 23 specimens, starting with the Macedonian shield type on two coins of Claudius of AD 42–54 (RPC I online 1612²⁴), one under Nero of AD 54–68 (RPC I online 1614²⁵), one under Vitellius of AD 69 (RPC I online 1616²⁶), one under Vespasian (RPC II online 333²⁷), one under Domitian from AD 81–96 (RPC II online 336²⁸), four under Antoninus Pius (RPC IV.1 online 4268–4270 (temporary)²⁹), three of which with the shield, but one with young Marcus Aurelius instead of Pius

⁹ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/3/667A> [27.03.2026].

¹⁰ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/58748> [27.03.2026].

¹¹ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/48152> [27.03.2026].

¹² Either combination of the obverse in RPC II online 281 (<https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/2/281> [27.03.2026]) with the reverse RPC III online 452 (<https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/3/452> [27.03.2026]) in Thessaly or for Prusias ad Hypium in Bythia see RPC II online 684A (<https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/2/684A> [27.03.2026]).

¹³ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/48120> [27.03.2026].

¹⁴ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/7.2/66> [27.03.2026].

¹⁵ The reverse is not legible, but the obverse is very close to the contour as in Stobi. The Latin legend and the weight also tend to coincide with this mint.

¹⁶ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/9078> [27.03.2026].

¹⁷ To be dated 77/78, 98 or 100 AD, see RPC II online 310 (<https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/6206> [27.03.2026]); RPC III online 602 (<https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/9079> [27.03.2026]); RPC III online 600 (<https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/9077> [27.03.2026]).

¹⁸ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/49341> [27.03.2026].

¹⁹ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/1/1607> [27.03.2026].

²⁰ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/68983> [27.03.2026].

²¹ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/1/1656> [27.03.2026]. Burnett and Martin reattributed this type to Alexandria Troas and not to Philippi (Burnett – Martin 2018, 245-252). However, there is the same type of a larger denomination of Marc Anthony in Philippi and quite a few finds of this type are found on the territory of the Roman province of Macedonia and in Heraclea Sintica particularly.

²² <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/1/1651> [27.03.2026]; One of the coins comes from area “Kompre-sorna stantsiya”.

²³ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/3/661> [27.03.2026].

²⁴ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/49412> [27.03.2026].

²⁵ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/1/1614> [27.03.2026].

²⁶ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/58683> [27.03.2026].

²⁷ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/6664> [27.03.2026].

²⁸ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/2/336> [27.03.2026].

²⁹ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/4/4268> [27.03.2026] and <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/32832> [27.03.2026]. <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/32831> [27.03.2026].

on the obverse (RPC IV.1 online 4273 (temporary)³⁰), and another one has an uncertain reverse type (probably thunderbolt). These issues are followed by the familiar types depicting the head of Alexander the Great wearing a lion-skin, diadem, or helmet. The first are of Elagabalus with an agonistic table,³¹ followed by four coins with Alexander riding Bucephallus, two of which are under Severus Alexander (RPC VI online 338. 378 (temporary)³²). The same emperor is represented by a coin with the reverse showing Alexander standing holding a spear,³³ another one of the type Athena seated on a throne holding patera (RPC VI online 326 (temporary); RPC VII.2 online 284 (temporary)³⁴), and a next one with possible depiction of a lion. The last two reverse types appear also by Gordian III: the Alexander standing type (RPC VII.2 online 105³⁵), and the Athena type – either with patera (RPC VII.2 online 163³⁶), or holding Nike (**Fig. 7**; RPC VII.2 online 228³⁷). Under the same emperor the image of *cista mystica* also appears (**Fig. 8**; RPC VII.2 online 285³⁸).

Six coins could not be identified with certainty, but they belong to this general period.

Roman Imperial Coins

The Imperial issues of the early Principate comprise surprisingly only of *assaria*. The earliest is issued by Caligula with Germanicus on the obverse and legend on the reverse, dated AD 37–38 (RIC I online Gaius/Caligula 35³⁹). It is followed by an *assarion* of Vespasian from 76 AD with Titus and Spes (RIC II.1 online Vespasian 914⁴⁰), and one by Trajan from AD 112–114 with an unidentified figure on the reverse (RIC II online Trajan 626⁴¹). The last one is a bronze under Antoninus Pius for Faustina the Elder with the empress and Juno (RIC III online Antoninus Pius 1155 (as)⁴²). Interestingly, quite a few of the coins are dedicated issues.

On the boundary between the Principate and Late Antiquity stand the numerous *antoniniani*, found predominantly in two hoards from two separate burials in the necropolis. Their composition will be discussed in detail elsewhere. Chronologically, the earliest coin is a denarius of Gordian I or Trajan Decius, featuring the emperor himself on the reverse (RIC IV online Gordian I 1⁴³). With the exception of a single specimen, all remaining coins date to the second half of the 3rd century AD. The earliest *antoninianus* is of Philip I dated to AD 244–247, featuring Salus (RIC IV online Philip I 47⁴⁴), followed by three specimens from Mediolanum under Valerian from AD 257, showing a soldier with Nike (RIC V online Valerian 23 or 266⁴⁵), Spes (**Fig. 9**; RIC V online Valerian 257–258⁴⁶), Pax (**Fig. 10**; RIC V online Valerian 245⁴⁷). Under the same emperor is a coin from Rome. A next issue under Gallien from AD 257–258 is for Salonina with Juno (**Fig. 11**; RIC V online Salonina 29⁴⁸). Another coin of Gallienus dates to AD 260–268 and depicts Abundantia (RIC

³⁰ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/32837> [27.03.2026].

³¹ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/6/240> [27.03.2026].

³² <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/79741> [27.03.2026] and <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/79807> [27.03.2026].

³³ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/79798> [27.03.2026].

³⁴ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/51983> [27.03.2026]; <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/70850> [27.03.2026].

³⁵ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/7.2/105> [27.03.2026].

³⁶ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/70962> [27.03.2026].

³⁷ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/66108> [27.03.2026].

³⁸ <https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/type/66426> [27.03.2026].

³⁹ [https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.1\(2\).gai.35](https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.1(2).gai.35) [27.03.2026].

⁴⁰ [https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.2_1\(2\).ves.914](https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.2_1(2).ves.914) [27.03.2026].

⁴¹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.2.tr.626> [27.03.2026].

⁴² https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.3.ant.1155_as [27.03.2026].

⁴³ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.4.gor.i.1> [27.03.2026].

⁴⁴ <http://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.4.ph.i.47> [27.03.2026].

⁴⁵ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.val.i.23> [27.03.2026] or <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.val.i.266> [27.03.2026].

⁴⁶ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.val.i.257> [27.03.2026]; <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.val.i.258> [27.03.2026].

⁴⁷ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.val.i.245> [27.03.2026].

⁴⁸ [https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.sala\(1\).29](https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.sala(1).29) [27.03.2026].

V online Gallienus 157⁴⁹). Two coins of Aurelian from an uncertain mint dated to AD 270–275 depict Aurelian himself standing receiving a globe by Jupiter (**Fig. 12**; RIC V online Aurelian 129⁵⁰). From the same issuer and timespan, a coin from Siscia depicts on the reverse Aurelian with Concordia (RIC V online Aurelian 244⁵¹) and another one shows Sol between two captives (**Fig. 13**; RIC V online Aurelian 154⁵²). The following emperor Probus is attested by five *antoniniani* from the period of AD 276–282. While one specimen cannot be assigned to a certain mint, it again depicts Sol, this time in quadriga (RIC V online Probus 862⁵³). Another specimen from Rome features a tropaion (RIC V online Probus 223⁵⁴), and a specimen with Heracles is from Ticinum (RIC V online Probus 382⁵⁵), while a next one from Serdica (RIC V online Probus 877⁵⁶) shows the galloping emperor attacking an enemy (**Fig. 14**).

Late Antiquity

This series of *anoniniani* ends with a Cyzicus issued of Diocletian struck for Galerius, showing Galerius on the reverse and dated to AD 284–294 (RIC V online Diocletian 717⁵⁷), followed by a coin of Maximian with Jupiter from Rome, dated to AD 285 (RIC V Diocletian online 504⁵⁸). In chronological terms, these coins already reach the threshold of Late Antiquity.

They are followed by bronzes from the Tetrarchy period, several of which depict the genius: one for Maximian was minted in Siscia (RIC VI online Siscia 146⁵⁹), two coins were again for Galerius by Diocletian (RIC VI online Nicomedia 28b; RIC VI online Serdica 4b⁶⁰) and one with Diocletian's portrait (possibly RIC VI online Heraclea 17a⁶¹). Chronologically, these are followed by two coins of uncertain attribution, one depicting two figures – perhaps the emperor and Jupiter – and another showing Jupiter alone. Two additional coins from Heraclea were issued by Galerius for his successor Maximian Daia, again featuring a Genius (RIC VI online Heraclea 55 or 61 or 62⁶²). Another one from Nicomedia has Heracles on the reverse and dates to AD 311–312 (RIC VI online Nicomedia 68 or 75⁶³). An issue of the same emperor, but struck for Constantine the Great between AD 312–313 and depicting Jupiter, from the mint of Cyzicus, was also found (RIC VI online Cyzicus 105c⁶⁴). These are followed by 35 coins issued by Licinius, all bearing Jupiter on the reverse and struck both for himself and for Constantine the Great. Of the same imagery type there are number of next coins: four coins from Thessalonica dated to AD 312–313 (**Fig. 15**; RIC VI Thessalonica 51 and 60⁶⁵), and one is dated to AD 313–316 (RIC VII online Thessalonica 3⁶⁶); from Heraclea one is dated to AD 312 (RIC VI online Heraclea 69⁶⁷), and two are from AD 313 (RIC

⁴⁹ [https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.gall\(2\).157](https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.gall(2).157) [27.03.2026].

⁵⁰ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.aur.129> [27.03.2026].

⁵¹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.aur.244> [27.03.2026].

⁵² <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.aur.154> [27.03.2026].

⁵³ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.pro.862> [27.03.2026].

⁵⁴ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.pro.223> [27.03.2026].

⁵⁵ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.pro.382> [27.03.2026].

⁵⁶ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.pro.877> [27.03.2026].

⁵⁷ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.dio.717> [27.03.2026].

⁵⁸ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.5.dio.504> [27.03.2026].

⁵⁹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.sis.146> [27.03.2026].

⁶⁰ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.nic.28b> [27.03.2026]; <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.serd.4b> [27.03.2026].

⁶¹ i. e.: <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.her.17a> [27.03.2026].

⁶² <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.her.55> [27.03.2026]; <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.her.61> [27.03.2026]; <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.her.62> [27.03.2026].

⁶³ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.nic.68> [27.03.2026]; <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.nic.75> [27.03.2026].

⁶⁴ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.cyz.105c> [27.03.2026].

⁶⁵ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.thes.51> [27.03.2026]; <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.thes.60> [27.03.2026].

⁶⁶ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.3> [27.03.2026].

⁶⁷ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.her.69> [27.03.2026].

VI online Heraclea 73⁶⁸); two are from Cyzicus from AD 313–315 (RIC VII online Cyzicus 4⁶⁹); from Siscia there are two from AD 313 (RIC VI online Siscia 233a and 234a⁷⁰) and two from AD 313–315 (RIC VII online Siscia 8⁷¹). With the portrait of Constantine there is one coin from Antioch or Heraclea from AD 312–314 (RIC VI online Antioch 166c or RIC VII online Heraclea 5⁷²), three from Siscia, two of which from AD 313 (RIC VI online Siscia 232b. 234c⁷³) and one AD 313–315 (RIC VII online Siscia 3⁷⁴), three from Heraclea – one dated to AD 313 (RIC VI online Heraclea 75⁷⁵) and two from AD 313–314 (RIC VII online Heraclea 5. 75⁷⁶), and three from Thessalonica – one from AD 316–317 (RIC VII online Thessalonica 4⁷⁷) and two from AD 316–318 (RIC VII online Thessalonica 4 or 19⁷⁸). Another type issued by Licinius with Sol is the only coming from Rome again with Constantine's portrait, dated within AD 314–315 (RIC VII online Rome 27⁷⁹) or AD 316 (**Fig. 16**; RIC VII online Rome 50⁸⁰).

Authorized by Constantine the Great, with his own image on the obverse and from the West, there are singular specimens minted in Rome from AD 312–313 with a Genius (RIC VI online Rome 293a⁸¹), in Arelate from AD 313 depicting three standards (RIC VII online Arelate 8⁸²), in Ticinum from AD 314–315 with Sol standing (RIC VII online Ticinum 21⁸³), in Trier from AD 319 depicting two Victories with a shield (RIC VII online Treveri 215⁸⁴), and in Aquileia from AD 320–321 with a legend in a wreath (RIC VII online Aquileia 65⁸⁵).

Moving towards the mints in the East there are specimens minted in Siscia from AD 319–320 with two Victories and a shield, in Thessalonica from AD 317–318 with Jupiter (**Fig. 17**; RIC VII online Thessalonica 19⁸⁶), from AD 320–321 with a legend in wreath, and two coins with two soldiers with one standard between them around AD 330–336 (RIC VII online Thessalonica 183 to 202⁸⁷), and with two standards dated AD 336–340 (RIC VII online Thessalonica 222; RIC VIII online Thessalonica 59⁸⁸). In Heraclea one coin was minted between AD 325 and 336, and depicts a legend in a wreath (RIC VII online Heraclea 69⁸⁹) and another type with the two soldiers and the two standards belonging to types issued in the range AD 330 to 337 (**Fig. 18**; i.e. the earliest

⁶⁸ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.her.73> [27.03.2026].

⁶⁹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.cyz.4> [27.03.2026].

⁷⁰ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.sis.233a> [27.03.2026] and <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.sis.234a> [27.03.2026].

⁷¹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.sis.8> [27.03.2026].

⁷² <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.anch.166c> [27.03.2026] or <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.her.5> [27.03.2026].

⁷³ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.sis.232b> [27.03.2026] and <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.sis.234c> [27.03.2026].

⁷⁴ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.sis.3> [27.03.2026].

⁷⁵ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.her.75> [27.03.2026].

⁷⁶ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.her.5> [27.03.2026]; <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.her.75> [27.03.2026].

⁷⁷ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.4> [27.03.2026].

⁷⁸ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.4> [27.03.2026] or <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.19> [27.03.2026].

⁷⁹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.rom.27> [27.03.2026].

⁸⁰ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.rom.50> [27.03.2026].

⁸¹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.6.rom.293a> [27.03.2026].

⁸² <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.ar.8> [27.03.2026].

⁸³ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.tic.21> [27.03.2026].

⁸⁴ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.tri.215> [27.03.2026].

⁸⁵ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.aq.65> [27.03.2026].

⁸⁶ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.19> [27.03.2026].

⁸⁷ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.183> [27.03.2026] to <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.202> [27.03.2026].

⁸⁸ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.222> [27.03.2026]; <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.thes.59> [27.03.2026].

⁸⁹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.her.69> [27.03.2026].

type RIC VII online Heraclea 111⁹⁰). Two coins of the camp-gate type dated to AD 324–325 were minted in Cyzicus (**Fig. 19**; RIC VII online Cyzicus 24⁹¹), and two coins from Constantinople can be dated as late as AD 336 to 337, showing two soldiers and two standards (i.e. RIC VII online Constantinople 137⁹²).

An issue of Constantine for his father Constantius Chlorus as Divus is also attested, showing him on both the obverse and the reverse with a veil, minted in from Thessalonica and dated to AD 317–318 (RIC VII online Thessalonica 25⁹³). Apart from the type dedicated to his father, two additional Constantinian commemorative issues from this campaign are also attested: one for Rome, minted at Constantinople between AD 330–335, with Roma on the obverse and Lupa and the twins on the reverse (i.e. RIC VII online Constantinople 62⁹⁴), and another for Constantinople, showing the personified city on the obverse and Victory on the reverse (**Fig. 20**; RIC VII online Thessalonica 188⁹⁵).

Among the numismatic findings of Constantine's time, there were coins issued for his sons. For Crispus, the two Victories type from Siscia in AD 319 (RIC VII online Siscia 65⁹⁶) and one of the type "legend in a wreath" from AD 324 from Thessalonica (RIC VII online Thessalonica 125⁹⁷) are attested. For Constantine II also the type "legend in a wreath" was discovered, but from Siscia, dated to AD 320–321 (RIC VII online Siscia 163⁹⁸), and for Constans – two "soldiers and a standard" type from Thessalonica, minted in AD 336–337 (RIC VII online Thessalonica 226⁹⁹) is presented. For Constantius II the same type was found, but from the mint of Constantinople (i.e. RIC VII online Constantinople 137¹⁰⁰), as well as an earlier type with two standards from Thessalonica, dated to AD 330–333, (**Fig. 21**; RIC VII online Thessalonica 184¹⁰¹), and a camp gate type from Heraclea minted in AD 324–330 (**Fig. 22**; var. RIC VII online Heraclea 65¹⁰²).

From the coinage of Constantine's sons, one coin from AD 317–320 with Jupiter on the reverse was found, issued under Crispus in Nicomedia (RIC VII online Nicomedia 32¹⁰³), and dated to AD 347–348, with two Victories, was struck by Constans (i. e. RIC VIII online Treveri 210¹⁰⁴). The majority of the material is, as expected, issued by Constantius II. From his early years, between AD 337–340, we find coins with the veiled portrait of Constantine the Great in quadriga, struck at Alexandria, Cyzicus and probably another eastern mint (RIC VIII online Alexandria 12; RIC VIII online Cyzicus 25; for the other mint cf. RIC VIII online Heraclea 13¹⁰⁵). Two coins show his brother Constantine II with two soldiers on the reverse, both from Thessalonica (RIC VIII online Thessalonica 55–56¹⁰⁶). A type from Constantinople with Victory appears from AD 342 (RIC VIII online Constantinople 63¹⁰⁷). From AD 347–348, nine coins were uncovered depicting two Victories,

⁹⁰ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.her.111> [27.03.2026].

⁹¹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.cyz.24> [27.03.2026], depicted coin could be of other types too up until 330 AD.

⁹² <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.cnp.137> [27.03.2026].

⁹³ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.25> [27.03.2026].

⁹⁴ i. e. <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.cnp.62> [27.03.2026].

⁹⁵ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.188> [27.03.2026].

⁹⁶ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.sis.65> [27.03.2026].

⁹⁷ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.125> [27.03.2026].

⁹⁸ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.sis.163> [27.03.2026].

⁹⁹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.226> [27.03.2026].

¹⁰⁰ i. e.: <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.cnp.137> [27.03.2026].

¹⁰¹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.thes.184> [27.03.2026].

¹⁰² <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.her.65> [27.03.2026].

¹⁰³ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.7.nic.32> [27.03.2026].

¹⁰⁴ i. e. <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.tri.210> [27.03.2026].

¹⁰⁵ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.alex.12> [27.03.2026]; <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.cyz.25> [27.03.2026]; other mint i. e.: <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.her.13> [27.03.2026].

¹⁰⁶ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.thes.55> [27.03.2026]; <http://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.thes.56> [27.03.2026].

¹⁰⁷ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.cnp.63> [27.03.2026].

either without a palm branch (RIC VIII online Thessalonica 100¹⁰⁸) or with one placed between them (RIC VIII online Thessalonica 103¹⁰⁹). Two of these are confirmed to be minted in Thessalonica, and the remaining specimens are likely from the same mint. Twelve additional coins were also found, depicting legend in a wreath (RIC VIII online Heraclea 54 and other similar types¹¹⁰). The type with a soldier spearing a horseman from Thessalonica appears as from AD 355–361 (RIC VIII online Thessalonica 208¹¹¹). Further coins that most likely should be attributed to Constantius II, but are too poorly preserved to be legible, include six probably depicting the soldier spearing a horseman, 13 showing two soldiers with a standard, two with Victory and a palm, two with a legend in a wreath, one with a Genius, and five preserving only the typical for the period portrait contours.

Concluding this period is a coin of Magnentius from Arelate dated to AD 351–353, with the bust of Decentius and two Victories with a wreath bearing a legend (RIC VIII online 185¹¹²).

The next emperor represented in the numismatic material is Valentinian, with a coin dated to AD 364–367, struck in Thessalonica, where the emperor himself is portrayed, and on the reverse the emperor is dragging a captive (RIC IX online Thessalonica 16A¹¹³). Two coins form the same period, but with uncertain imperial attribution and sharing the same reverse type, find their closest parallels in Cyzicus (i.e. RIC IX online Cyzicus 12B¹¹⁴). Two further specimens show the stylistic and metrological characteristics of the bronzes in the Valentinian dynasty. It is rather unusual that only a few coins from this later period appear, especially in comparison with the materials from the forum findings. This contrast helps to indicate the chronological limits of activity within the burial area.

Eight coins belong to Late Antiquity based on the metrical data but are otherwise unidentifiable. Most intriguing for this period is the presence of commemorative coins, which also found their way into the graves.



Fig. 1. Alexander the Great, (ca. 323–310 BC), Herakles/quiver and club type, AE, D 18–18.3 mm, T 3.8 mm, 6.12 g, 9 h, ПИН no. 2485, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 2. Pella (187–31 BC), Pan/Athena Alkidemos type, AE, D 19.3–21.2 mm, T 3.8 mm, 8.87 g, 12 h, ПИН no. 2458, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 3. Pella (187–31 BC), Athena Parthenos/bull type, AE, D 18.8–19.7 mm, T 4.1 mm, 8.05 g, 11 h, ПИН no. 2447, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 4. Thessalonike (187–40 BC), Zeus/eagle type, AE, D 20–20.2 mm, T 3.8 g, 6.75 g, 1 h, ПИН no. 2389, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).

¹⁰⁸ i. e. <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.thes.100> [27.03.2026].

¹⁰⁹ i. e. <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.thes.103> [27.03.2026].

¹¹⁰ i. e. <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.her.54> [27.03.2026].

¹¹¹ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.thes.208> [27.03.2026].

¹¹² <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.8.ar.185> [27.03.2026].

¹¹³ <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.9.thes.16A> [27.03.2026].

¹¹⁴ i. e. <https://numismatics.org/ocre/id/ric.9.cyz.12B> [27.03.2026].



Fig. 5. Thessalonike (187–41 BC), Athena/horse prancing type, AE, D 18.2–18.6 mm, T 3.6 mm, 5.71 g, 5 h, ПИИ no. 2478, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 6. Philippus Arabs (AD 244–245), Thessalonica, Otacilia Severa/Apollon type, AE, D 24.6–25.1 mm, T 3.4 mm, 8.16 g, 8 h, ПИИ no. 2414D, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 7. Gordian III (AD 238–244), Macedonian koinon, Alexander the Great with diadem/Athena seated type, AE, D 26.1–26 mm, T 3.6 mm, 12.12 g, 7 h, ПИИ no. 2414G, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 8. Gordian III (AD 238–244), Macedonian koinon, Alexander the Great with helmet/cista mystica type, AE, D 26.8–27.8 mm, T 2.5 mm, 7.85 g, 2 h, ПИИ no. 2414A, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 9. Valerian (AD 257), Mediolanum, Valerian bust/Spes type, antoninianus, AR, D 19.8–21.1 mm, T 1.5 mm, 2.91 g, 1 h, ПИИ no. 2406A, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 10. Valerian (AD 257), Mediolanum, Valerian bust/Pax type antoninianus, AR, D 18.5–21.6 mm, T 1.7 mm, 2.14 g, 6 h, ПИИ no. 2406B, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 11. Valerian and Gallienus (AD 257–258), Rome, Salonina bust/Juno type, antoninianus, AR, D 20.8–23 mm, T 1.8 mm, 3.1 g, 1 h, ПИИ no. 2406C, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 12. Aurelian (AD 270–275), uncertain mint, Aurelianus bust/Aurelian and Jupiter type antoninianus, AR, D 22.3–22.8 mm, T 1.6 mm, 3.39 g, 12 h, ПИИ no. 2414K, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 13. Aurelian (AD 270–275), Ticinum, Aurelian bust/Sol with captives type, antoninianus, AR, D 21.1–23.2 mm, T 1.9 mm, 3.68 g, 12 h, ПИИ no. 2414N, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 14. Probus (AD 276–282), Serdica, Probus bust/Probus galloping type, antoninianus, AR, D 23.3–23.7 mm, T 1.7 mm, 3.44 g, 12 h, ПИИ no. 2414H, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 15. Licinius (AD 312–313), Thessalonica, Licinius bust/Jupiter type (IOVI CONSERVATORI), AE, D 21.5–22.9 mm, T 1.4 mm, 2.84 g, 5 h, ПИИ no. 2435F, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 16. Licinius (AD 316), Rome, Constantine the Great bust/Sol type (SOLI INVICTO), AE, D 19.8–20.4 mm, T 1.6 mm, 2.45 g, 12 h, ПИИ no. 2435I, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 17. Constantine the Great (AD 317–318), Thessalonica, Constantine head/Jupiter type (IOVI CONSERVATORI), AE, D 19.9–20.5 mm, T 1.6 mm, 3.44 g, 12 h, ПИИ no. 2436, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 18. Constantine the Great (AD 330–337), Heraclea, Constantine bust/two soldiers and two standards (GLORIA EXERCITVS), AE, D 18.4–19.8 mm, T 1.3 mm, 2.07 g, 11 h, ПИИ no. 2408C, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 19. Constantine the Great (AD 324–330), Cyzicus, Constantine the Great head/camp gate (PROVIDENTIAE AVGG). AE, D 18.2–18.5 mm, T 1.8 mm, 2.86 g, 1 h, ПИИ no. 2408D, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 20. Constantine the Great and sons (AD 330–348), uncertain eastern mint, Constantinopolis bust/Victory on prow, AE, D 18.2–18.8 mm, T 1.5 mm, 2.02 g, 1 h, ПИИ no. 2408F, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 21. Constantine the Great and sons (AD 330–333), Thessalonica, Constantine II head/two soldiers and two standards (GLORIA EXERCITVS) AE, D 17.6–18.2 mm, T 1.4 mm, 2 g, 11, ПИИ no. 2408E, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).



Fig. 22. Constantine the Great and sons (AD 324–330), Heraclea, Constantius II bust/camp gate type (PROVIDENTIAE CAESS) AE, D 19–19.4 mm, T 1.8 mm, 2.67 g, 5, ПИИ no. 2408B, (Photo by Lily Grozdanova).

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