HERODIUM

Final Reports of the 1972–2010 Excavations Directed by Ehud Netzer

Volume I Herod's Tomb Precinct

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CHAPTER 10

THE COINS FROM HERODIUM — THE TOMB AREA

Nili Ahipaz*

Eighty coins were found in the area of the mausoleum.¹ All of them are identifiable and are bronze. They can be listed as follows: two coins from the time of Antiochus IV Epiphanes, one Phoenician coin dated between the first century BCE and the second century CE, 12 Hasmonean coins, mostly of Alexander Jannaeus, 28 coins of the Herodian dynasty, mostly of Herod the Great, four coins of the prefects/procurators before and after Agrippa I, 29 coins of the First Jewish Revolt, mostly dating to the second year, two "Judaea Capta" coins, one Roman Provincial coin from Dora dating from the first century CE, and one Late Roman coin dating to the fourth century CE found on the surface.

Table 10.1. Coins from excavations at Herodium — the tomb area

Ruler/Era	Total
Antiochus IV (173/2–168 BCE)	2
Phoenician (1st c. BCE-2nd c. CE)	1
Alexander Jannaeus (104–76 BCE)	9
Hasmonean (129–37 BCE)	3
Herod the Great (37–4 BCE)	24
Archelaus (4 BCE-6 CE)	1
Herod / Archelaus (37 BCE-6CE)	1
Prefects (5/6–31/2 CE)	2
Agrippa I (41/2 CE)	2
Procurators (54–58/9 CE)	2
First Jewish Revolt; year two (67/8 CE)	20
First Jewish Revolt; year three (68/9 CE)	4
First Jewish Revolt; year two/ three (67/8–68/9 CE)	2
First Jewish Revolt; year four (69/70 CE)	3
"Judaea Capta" under Titus (71–79 CE)	2
Roman Provincial, Dora (1st c. CE)	1
Late Roman (4th c. CE)	1
Total	80

The earliest two coins (cat. nos. 1–2) are dated to the reign of Antiochus IV (175–164 BCE). They are of the "veiled goddess" type and were struck in Akko-

Ptolemais in 173/2–168 BCE. A similar coin was revealed during Corbo's excavations in the Mountain Palace-Fortress.² These excavations also

unearthed a coin of Ptolemy I (323–283 BCE). A Seleucid coin generally dated to the second century BCE was found in Lower Herodium. Ptolemaic and Seleucid coins have been found in various digs and they remained in circulation for a long time. Coins like these were also uncovered in the excavations at Masada and Jericho.³

Also found was part of a coin of the head/galley type (cat. no. 3), struck in Phoenicia and generally dated to a time ranging from the first century BCE to the second century CE. Since we are unable to date it more accurately, it can be classified, together with the coin from Dora (cat. no. 79), in the group of Roman Provincial coins. The En-Gedi excavations yielded a similar coin.⁴

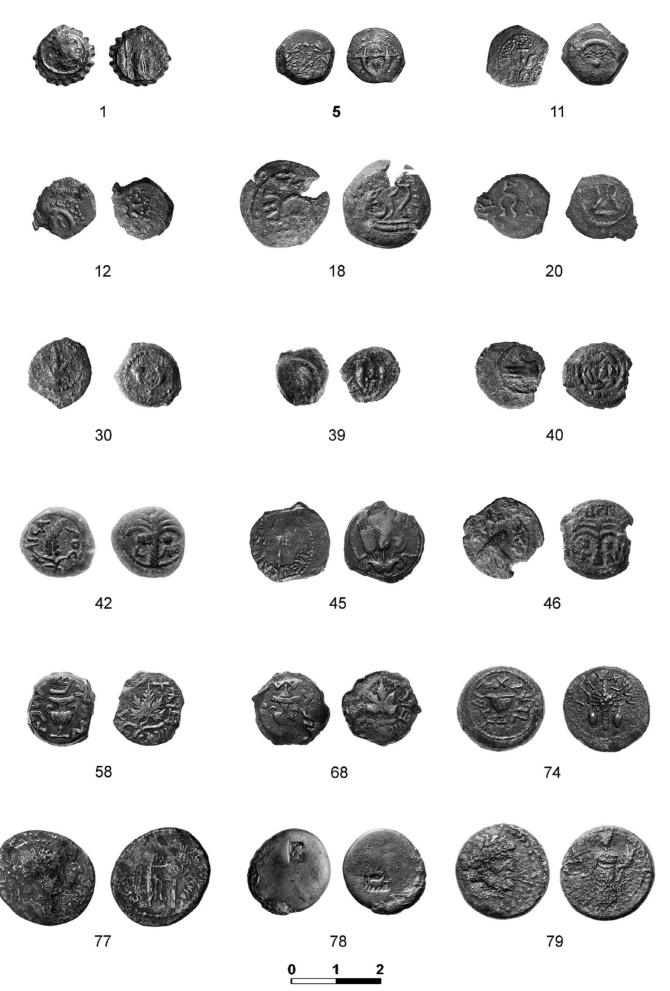
Twelve coins dated to the time of the Hasmoneans came to light. Nine of them (cat. nos. 4-12) date to Alexander Jannaeus (104-76 BCE); most of them are of the inscription/two cornucopiae type. One coin (cat. no. 11) is dated to the eighties of the first century BCE and another (cat. no. 12) is dated to "year 25," i.e., 80/79 BCE. Three are dated generally to the Hasmonean period (cat. nos. 13-15). The abovementioned Hellenistic coins and those of Jannaeus in no way call into question the historical information that dates the founding of the site by Herod the Great (Ant. I.33, 5; War I.20, 10; III.5, 5). The presence of the coins of Jannaeus at a site founded by Herod the Great is evidence of the circulation of coinage in the first century BCE and the first century CE. Such coins stayed in currency for a lengthy period.⁵ Eight coins of Jannaeus were also found during the excavations in Lower Herodium and a few more were revealed in the Mountain Palace-Fortress.

A fairly large group of coins, constituting 30% of all those found in the area of the mausoleum, is dated to the Herodian dynasty. Most of them — 24 coins (cat. nos. 16–39) — were struck by Herod the Great himself. No "dated coins" of Herod the Great (probably his initial minting), were revealed at Herodium. Most of Herod's coins from Herodium are of three types: diadem/tripod, anchor/two opposing cornucopiae and caduceus, and single cornucopia/eagle. It seems that the coins of the diadem/tripod type were struck after Herod's visit with Octavian on the island of Rhodes in 30 BCE.⁶ Most of the coins of this type found at Herodium are of the smaller denomination than what was probably struck

at a later stage, in the eighth decade of the first century BCE.7 The most common of Herod's coins are of the anchor/ two opposing cornucopiae and caduceus type. The minting of this type was possibly connected with the construction of Caesarea (25/4 or 23/2 BCE).8 On account of the large scale of public works connected with the execution of Herod's projects, a large issue of coins was minted in order to pay those who were involved in the actual construction. With regard to the cornucopia/eagle type, Ariel and Fontanille suggest that it was minted at roughly the same time as the above-mentioned type.9 However, in view of the hoard finds and the finds from the Jerusalem excavations, the cornucopia/eagle type was possibly put into circulation shortly before the anchor/two opposing cornucopiae and caduceus type.¹⁰ However, for most of the time the abovementioned coins were in parallel usage.

Worthy of mention are the two coins of the diadem/three-legged table type that were found in Locus A2920 (cat. nos. 16, 18). They were exposed beneath the floor of a building close to the ritual bath (miqveh). These elements are stratigraphically below the mausoleum and predate its construction. This find lends support to the early dating of this type. Another point meriting mention is that in loci associated with the reign of Herod the Great, i.e., Stages 1-3, the coin finds are dated solely to the king's reign, aside from one in Locus A2783 dated to the time of Agrippa I. These stages correspond to the time of construction on the mount prior to the erection of the mausoleum, the time of construction of the mausoleum itself, and the time of shaping the artificial mount. All of the other coin finds from the excavation of the mausoleum area, i.e., those of the Seleucids, Jannaeus, the prefects/procurators, the First Jewish Revolt, and the "Judaea Capta" coins, came from strata dated to Stage 4, corresponding to the time of the First Jewish Revolt and the period thereafter. On the one hand, these coins represent the time and nature of the activity in the mausoleum area, and on the other hand, some of them were found in a refuse heap, which was probably the outcome of clean-up operations by the Roman army after the suppression of the revolt.

Ninety-nine of the 132 coins revealed during the excavation of the theater are dated to the time of Herod the Great; most of them are of the anchor/two



Pl. 10.I. Selection of coins revealed during the excavations in the tomb area at Herodium.

opposing cornucopiae and caduceus type (see Table 10.2). During the excavation of the Mountain Palace-Fortress, seven of the 156 coins from the digs of Corbo and those of Netzer are dated to the reign of Herod the Great. Excavations in Lower Herodium have yielded 117 coins, 16 of which are dated to his reign. The disparity between the number of Herod's coins from different excavation areas can possibly be attributed to the fact that in the framework of Corbo's dig, the tunnel systems below the floors of the palace were not exposed and no use was made of earth-sieving and metal-detection techniques that heighten the chances of revealing small finds. However, this does not explain the huge difference between the number of coins found in the tomb area and the very large number of Herod's coins revealed in the theater. These two areas were excavated at the same time, with the employment of the same methods of excavation, and by members of the same expedition. The particularly large number of Herod's coins in the theater could possibly be connected with the nature of the activity there: possible occasional distributions of coins as gifts to the audience, or related to the construction of the artificial mount covering and sealing the theater. As aforesaid, it should be mentioned that in the strata of the excavation in the mausoleum area which are dated to the time of Herod's activity at the site, as well as in the theater, the finds of his coins are outstanding and they exclude Hasmonean coins that we would otherwise have expected to encounter, since they have come to light in chronologically later complexes. Did Herod's men purposefully refrain from the usage of Hasmonean coins? Or are the results of the excavation finds merely incidental?

Finds of Herod's coins from excavations at the main sites in which he was active show that the "dated coins" have been found mainly in Samaria and Jerusalem. Most common at all the sites is the anchor/two opposing cornucopiae and caduceus type. The inscription/anchor type is found mainly in Jerusalem, with a few in Samaria and Masada. Even the cornucopia/eagle type is fairly widespread at most of the sites.

Also found was a single coin of the prow/inscription within a wreath type dated to the reign of Herod

Table 10.2. Comparison of quantities of Herod the Great coins at major sites11

TJC type	Gamla	Samaria	Caesarea	Jerusalem	Jericho	Masada	Herodium
L Γ 44–47	2	18		9	1	1	
Table/diadem(large) 48–49	1	1	1	13	7	8	2
Table/diadem(medium) 50–54	5	8		41	3	28	12
Table/two palm branches 55				4	1	1	
Anchor/two opposing cornucopiae 59	94	36	117	268	80	288	92
Inscription/anchor 60–64		15		92	5	15	2
Anchor/galley 65				1		9	2
Single cornucopia/eagle 66	10	2	1	76	5	45	32
Herod general			43	37		1	
59 or 67–68			39	2			24
Total	112	80	201	543	102	396	166

Archelaus (cat. no. 40). Another coin of Archelaus was uncovered during Corbo's excavations in the Mountain Palace-Fortress, and the digs in Lower Herodium yielded two more. Two coins from the time of the prefects were found in the mausoleum area. One was struck under the rule of Augustus, probably by Ambibulus, in 9 CE (cat. no. 42). The other was struck under Tiberius (cat. no. 43). A coin of the prefects was found in the Mountain Palace-Fortress and another in the theater. On the other hand, eight coins from the time of the prefects were unearthed in Lower Herodium. Two coins of the common canopy/three ears of grain type attributed to the time of Agrippa I were found in the mausoleum area. They are dated to the sixth year of his reign, i.e., 41/2 CE (cat. nos. 44-45). Foerster's excavations in the Mountain Palace-Fortress yielded two similar coins, and 9 coins of Agrippa I were found in Lower Herodium. Two coins from the time of the procurators postdating the death of Agrippa I were revealed. One of them was struck by Antonius Felix under the rule of Claudius (cat. no. 46), and the other by Porcius Festus under the rule of Nero (cat. no. 47). Of the procurators' coins found in other parts of the site, only one from Lower Herodium postdates the reign of Agrippa I. In view of the aforementioned, it is possible that activity after the death of Herod the Great was concentrated in Lower Herodium. Activity at the site could have waned in the second half of the first century CE. From the numismatic finds it is not possible to determine whether there was a Jewish settlement in Herodium prior to its conquest by the zealots.

There are 29 coins dated to the time of the First Jewish Revolt, i.e., 36% of the total number found in the mausoleum area. Twenty of them are dated to the second year (67/8 CE) and are of the amphora/vine leaf — "year two" type (cat. nos. 48–67), four to the third year (68/9 CE), being of the amphora/vine leaf — "year three" type (cat. nos. 68–71), two are perhaps from the second or the third year (cat. nos. 72–73), and three are dated to the fourth year (69/70 CE) and are of the type bearing a chalice and the inscription "for the Redemption of Zion" on one side and a *lulav*, two *etrogs*, and the inscription "year four" on the other side (cat. nos. 74–76). No silver coins from the time of the First Jewish Revolt have

been found at Herodium. Corbo's excavations in the Mountain Palace-Fortress yielded 41 coins dated to the second and third years of the revolt. During Foerster's dig in the Mountain Palace-Fortress, 12 a hoard of 19 coins dated to the fourth year of the revolt was revealed. Netzer's excavations in the underground tunnel system within the mount yielded 34 coins dated to the second, third, and fourth years of the revolt.¹³ Only a single coin dated to the First Revolt has been found in Lower Herodium. From this one can assume that at that time the rebels concentrated their activities in the area of the Mountain Palace-Fortress and on the slope, but they did not settle in Lower Herodium. At various sites in Jerusalem¹⁴ and Masada,¹⁵ it was found that more than half of the coins dated to the time of the revolt are from the second year, i.e., 67/8 CE. Almost onefifth were struck in the third year, i.e., 68/9 CE, while the number from the fourth year, i.e., 69/70 CE, is small. These statistics are similar to those for the numismatic finds at Herodium. According to Flavius Josephus (War VII. 6, 1), the rebels at Herodium continued their fight against the Romans even after the destruction of the Temple. We lack any numismatic evidence of the last year of this revolt and of the time when the rebels continued to wage war against the

The Roman military presence at the site at the end of the revolt is represented by three coins in the mausoleum area. Two of them, of the "Judaea Capta" type struck under the rule of Titus (cat. nos. 77–78), were found in a refuse heap, perhaps indicative of the clean-up operations carried out by the Roman army in the Mountain Palace-Fortress. A single Roman Provincial coin struck in the city of Dora was found (cat. no 79). Its state of preservation does not enable us to date it accurately, but it can generally be assigned to the first century CE. Meshorer¹⁶ mentions that in 67/8 CE there was a notable increase in the quantity of minting in Dora. Apparently this heightened minting should be associated with the support lent by this city to the Roman army in its war against the Jews, as suggested by Flavius Josephus (Vita 31).

One coin dated to the fourth century (cat. no. 80) was found on the surface; it is a random find probably related to the later monastic activity at the site.

APPENDICES

Table 10.Ia. The Coins from the Netzer, Foerster, and Corbo excavations at Herodium (till 2012)

	Netzer		Corbo	Foerster			
Ruler/Era	Lower Her.	Tomb area	Theater	Upper Her.	Upper Her.	Upper Her.	Total
Hellenistic (4th–2nd century BCE)		2	1		2		5
Ascalon Autonomous (2nd c. BCE-1st c. BCE)			2				2
Phoenician (1st c. BC-2nd c. CE)		1					1
Alexander Jannaeus (104–76 BCE)	7	9	1	1	2		20
Hasmonean (129–37 BCE)	1	3	1		1		6
Roman Republic (46 BCE)				1			1
Herod the Great (37–4 BCE)	16	24	99	3	4		146
Archelaus (4 BCE-6 CE)	2	1			1		4
Herod the Great / Archelaus (37 BCE-6 CE)		1	22				23
Alexander Jannaeus / Herod the Great / Archelaus (104 BCE-6 CE)			1				1
Prefects (5/6–31/2 CE)	8	2	1		1		12
Agrippa I (41/2 CE)	9	2				2	13
Procurator (54–58/9 CE)	1	2					3
First Jewish Revolt; year two (67/8 CE)		20		17	29		66
First Jewish Revolt; year three (68/9 CE)	1	4		14	12		31
First Jewish Revolt; year two/ three (67–69 CE)		2					2
First Jewish Revolt; year four (69/70 CE)		3		3		19	25
First Jewish Revolt (illegible date)					6		6
Ascalon Autonomous (1st c. CE)	1			1			2
Roman Provincial under Nero (54–68 CE)				1			1
"Judaea Capta" under Titus (71–79 CE)		2		1			3
Roman Imperial under Domitian (81–96 CE)				1			1
Roman Provincial under Domitian (81–96 CE)				2			2
Roman Provincial (1st c. CE)		1	2		1		4
Roman Provincial under Trajan (98–117 CE)				2			2
Roman Provincial under Hadrian (117–138 C.E)					1		1
Bar-Kokhba Revolt (132/3 CE)				2	2		4
Bar-Kokhba Revolt (133/4 CE)				1	2		3
Bar-Kokhba Revolt (undated)				2	9		11
Bar-Kokhba Revolt (irregular)					2		2

		Ne	etzer		Corbo	Foer	ster
Ruler/Era	Lower Her.	Tomb area	Theater	Upper Her.	Upper Her.	Upper Her.	Total
Roman Provincial under Aquilia Severa (220–222 CE)	1						1
4th century CE	6	1			2		9
5th century CE	2				17		19
6th century CE	5				4		9
7th century CE	3				1		4
Umayyad (8th century CE)	23				1		24
^c Abbasid (9th century CE)	9						9
Uncertain						24	24
Unidentifiable	22		2	1	3		28
Total	117	80	132	53	103	45	530

Table 10.Ib. The hoard found by Corbo at Herodium

Ruler/Era	Upper Herodium Hoard
Prefects under Augustus & Tiberius (6–36 CE)	1
Nabatean (1st c. CE)	1
First Jewish Revolt; year two (67/8 CE)	1
"Judaea Capta" under Titus (70–81 CE)	1
Roman Provincial under Domitian (81–96 CE) & countermarks (LXF)	1
Roman Provincial under Trajan (98–117 CE)	3
Roman Provincial under Hadrian (117–138 CE)	1
Bar-Kokhba Revolt (132/3 CE)	56
Bar-Kokhba Revolt (133/4 CE)	376
Bar-Kokhba Revolt (undated)	338
Bar-Kokhba Revolt (irregular)	52
Total	831

Table 10.II: The Tomb Area — Index of coins according to loci

Locus	Basket	Cat. No.	Ruler	Date	No. of Coins
A2500	5001	22	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A2532	5043; 5044	17; 23	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	2
A2535	5060	48	First Jewish Revolt	67/8 CE	1
A2581	5174	49	First Jewish Revolt	67/8 CE	1
A2582	5124	46	Procurators	54 CE	1

HERODIUM I: HEROD'S TOMB PRECINCT

Locus	Basket	Cat. No.	Ruler	Date	No. of Coins
A2596	5195	6	Alexander Jannaeus	104-76 BCE	1
A2604	5215 5216	1 55	Antiochus IV First Jewish Revolt	173/2–168 BCE 67/8 CE	1 1
A2605	5252	69	First Jewish Revolt	68/9 CE	1
A2625	5300	47	Procurators	58/9 CE	1
A2641	5345; 5347 5346	56; 59 68	First Jewish Revolt First Jewish Revolt	67/8 CE 68/9 CE	2 1
A2651	5388; 5386; 5385 5382 5384	50; 57; 60 70 77	First Jewish Revolt First Jewish Revolt "Judaea Capta"	67/8 CE 68/9 CE 71–73/7 CE	3 1 1
A2655	5404 5423	7 14	Alexander Jannaeus Hasmoneans	104-76 BCE 129-37 BCE	1 1
A2656	5399	40	Archelaus	4 BCE-6 CE	1
A2662	5458	8	Alexander Jannaeus	104-76 BCE	1
A2676	5517 5516; 5520 5518	43 61; 62 74	Prefects First Jewish Revolt First Jewish Revolt	17/8 CE 67/8 CE 69/70 CE	1 2 1
A2687	5561	33	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A2727	6063	23	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A2728	6062; 2634	20; 24	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	2
A2729	6033	25	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A2731	6031; 6032; 6064	26; 34; 35	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	3
A2734	6065	32	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A2745	6535	75	First Jewish Revolt	69/70 CE	1
A2757	6224 6226 6122	2 42 78	Antiochus IV Prefects "Judaea Capta"	173/2–168 BCE 9 CE 71–79 CE	1 1 1
A2758	6140 6120; 6137 6123 6121	13 63; 64 71 79	Hasmoneans First Jewish Revolt First Jewish Revolt Dora	129–37 BCE 67/8 CE 68/9 CE 1st c. CE	1 2 1 1
A2761	6143	65	First Jewish Revolt	67/8 CE	1
A2762	6131 6150 6135 6149; 6147	3 27 44 51; 66	Phoenicia Herod the Great Agrippa I First Jewish Revolt	1st c. BCE-2nd c. CE 37-4 BCE 41/2 CE 67/8 CE	1 1 1 2
A2772	6182	72	First Jewish Revolt	67-69 CE	1
A2773	6184 6183	15 58	Hasmoneans First Jewish Revolt	129–37 BCE 67/8 CE	1 1
A2775	6194	52	First Jewish Revolt	67/8 CE	1
A2783	6223	45	Agrippa I	41/2 CE	1

CHAPTER 10: THE COINS

Locus	Basket	Cat. No.	Ruler	Date	No. of Coins
A2800	6272	5	Alexander Jannaeus	104-76 BCE	1
A2822	6331	73	First Jewish Revolt	67–69 CE	1
A2825	6332	28	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A2826	6329 6328	9 67	Alexander Jannaeus First Jewish Revolt	104-76 BCE 67/8 CE	1 1
A2828	6345 6340	10 12	Alexander Jannaeus Alexander Jannaeus	104-76 BCE 80/79 BCE	1 1
A2884	6475	29	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A2891	6490 6487; 6489	4 53; 54	Alexander Jannaeus First Jewish Revolt	104-76 BCE 67/8 CE	1 2
A2892	6488	30	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A2897	6508	36	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A2920	6564; 6565	16; 18	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	2
A12246	10486 10491	37 41	Herod the Great Herod/Archelaus	37–4 BCE 37 BCE–6 CE	1 1
A12247	10817	31	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A12269	10734 10735; 10736	11 38; 39	Alexander Jannaeus Herod the Great	80's BCE 37–4 BCE	1 2
A12486	11243	76	First Jewish Revolt	69/70CE	1
A12541	12392	19	Herod the Great	37-4 BCE	1
A-Surface	6036	80	Late Roman	4th c. CE	1
Total:					80

Table 10.III: The Tomb Area — Index of coins according to date/loci ("only coin" or "latest coin")

Date	Loci
Alexander Jannaeus 104–76 BCE)/ Hasmoneans (129–37 BCE)	A2596, A2655, A2662, A2800, 2828
Herod the Great (37–4 BCE)	A2501, A2532, A2687, A2727, A2728, A2729, A2731, A2734, A2825, A2884, A2892, A2897, A2920, A12247, A12269, A12541
Archelaus (4 BCE-6 CE)	A2656
Agrippa I (41/2 CE)	A2783
Procurators (54–62 CE)	A2582, A2625
First Jewish Revolt (67/8–70 CE)	A2581, A2604, A2605, A2641, A2676, A2745, A2758, A2761, A2762, A2772, A2773, A2775, A2822, A2826, A2891, A12486
"Judaea Capta" (70–81 CE)	A2651, A2757

THE COINS FROM THE TOMB AREA

CATALOGUE

THE SELEUCIDS

Antiochus IV (175–164 BCE)

1. L.A2604-5215 1.96 g 14×15 mm axis: †; (Pl. 10.I: 1)

Obv.: Radiate, diademed head of Antiochus IV r., fillet border; behind head: J

Rev.: Veiled goddess standing facing, holding long scepter. Inscription on r.: [BA] $\Sigma I\Lambda E[\Omega\Sigma]$; on l..: [ANTIOXOY]

Æ, Struck at Akko-Ptolemais.173/2–168 BCE. Cf. *SC* II/1: 92, No. 1479.

2. L.A2757-6224 1.98 g 14×15 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 1.

Rev.: Same as 1. Inscription illegible.

Same as 1.

PHOENICIA

3. L.A2762-6131 4.97 g 14×21 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Head r. Rev.: Galley.

Æ, half a coin. Phoenicia, first century BCE-second

century CE.

THE HASMONEANS

Alexander Jannaeus (104–76 BCE)

4. L.A2891–6490 2.16 g 15×17 mm axis: ↓

Obv.: Paleo-Hebrew inscription in wreath:

[מ]/[ח]נתנ ה[כ]/[ה]נ הגד[ל]/וחב[ר ה]/[י]ד[מ]

(Yehonatan the high priest and the council of the Jews).

Rev.: two opposing cornucopiae with pomegranate between the horns (off flan).

Æ, prutah. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC P17.

5. L.A2800–6272 1.29 g 13 mm axis: \(\cdot \); (Pl. 10.I: 5)

Obv.: Same as 4; [---]/[---]/ו הגדל ו (Yehonatan the high priest and the council of the Jews).

Rev.: two opposing cornucopiae with pomegranate between the horns.

Same as 4. Cf. *TJC* P 7–11.

6. L.A2596-5195 2.04 g 15 mm axis: \(\)

Obv.: Same as 5; [---]יהו/נתנ הכ/הנ הגדל/חבר הי/ (Yehonatan the high priest and the council of the Jews).

Rev.: Same as 5.

Same as 5. Cf. *TJC* P 13–27.

7. L.A2655-5404 1.58 g 14×15 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 5; [---]/[---]/[---] (Yehonatan the high priest and the council of the Jews).

Rev.: Same as 5.

Same as 6.

8. L.A2662-5458 2.29 g 14×15 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 4; [---]/[---]י[הו]/נתנ הכ/הנ הגדל/וחב (Yehonatan the high priest and the council of the Jews).

Rev.: Same as 5.

Same as 6.

9. L.A2826-6329 1.59 g 14 mm axis: ↓

Obv.: Same as 5; נ]תנ הכ/הנ הגדל/וחבר (Yehonatan the high priest and the council of the Jews).

Rev.: Same as 5.

Same as 5. Cf. TJC P 49.

10. L.A2828-6345 2.17 g 14×15 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 4; [---]/תנ הכ/[הנ הג]דול וח/[---]
(Yehonatan the high priest and the council of the Jews).

Rev.: Same as 5.

Same as 5. Cf. TJC P.

11. L.A12269–10734 2.79 g 15×16 mm axis: ↑; (Pl. 10.I: 11)

Obv.: Anchor surrounded by Greek inscription: $A\Lambda[E\Xi AN]\Delta PO[Y-BA\Sigma]I\Lambda E\Omega\Sigma$

Rev.: Eight-pointed star in diadem; between rays, paleo-Hebrew inscription: י.הו.נ.ת.נ.ה.מ.ל.כ (Yehonatan the King).

Æ, prutah. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC K.

12. L.A2828-6340 1.02 g 14×15 mm axis: ↓; (Pl. 10.I: 12)

Obv.: Anchor surrounded by a circle; around, Greek inscription: [A Λ E Ξ AN Δ POY] BA Σ I[Λ E Ω Σ] (off flan).

Rev.: Eight-pointed star surrounded by border of dots; around, Aramaic inscription: [מ]לכא א]לכסנדרוס שנת כה] (King Alexander year 25 = 80/79 BCE).

Æ, light prutah. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC L.

Hasmoneans (129-37 BCE)

13. L.A2758-6140 1.70 g 12×14 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 4; [---] וח/[---] הגד [---]/[-] (Yeho[---] the high priest and the council of the Jews).

Rev.: Same as 5.

Same as 5. Cf. TJC B-J, P-T.

14. L.A2655-5423 1.37 g 14×15 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 4; [---]ל וחבר/[---] (Yeho[---] the high priest and the council of the Jews).

Rev.: Same as 5.

Same as 13.

15. L.A2773–6184 1.50 g 13×14 mm axis: ↓

Obv.: Same as 5; [---]/זהר[ר] וחב[ר]/יהדל (Yeho[---] the high priest and the council of the Jews).

Rev.: Same as 5.

Same as 13.

THE HERODIANS

Herod the Great (37-4 BCE)

16. L.A2920-6564 5.10 g 20 mm axis: ←

Obv.: X surrounded by a diadem; around: $HP\Omega\Delta[OY BA\Sigma I \Lambda E\Omega]\Sigma$ (inverted omega)

Rev.: Table with three curved legs, with vessel, ground and palm branches.

Æ, double *prutah*. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. *TJC* 49.

17. L.A2532–5044 4.07 g 19 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 16; around: $H[P\Omega\Delta OY] BA[CI]\Lambda[E\Omega C]$

Rev.: Same as 16.

Same as 16.

18. L.A2920-6565 1.51 g 15 mm axis: ✓; (Pl. 10.I: 18)

Obv.: Same as 16, but closed diadem; around: HP Ω B[ACI Λ E Ω C] (omega V-shaped and inversed)

Rev.: Table with three curved legs, with ground. Æ, *prutah*. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. *TJC* 51.

19. L.12541–12392 1.67 g 14×15 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Closed diadem; below, between edges of diadem: X;

around: [HP $\Omega\Delta$ OY BA Σ I] Λ E Ω [Σ]

Rev.: Same as 18.

Same as 18. Cf. *TJC* 52.

20. L.A2728-6062 1.27 g 15×17 mm axis: \(\text{Pl.} \) 10.I: 20)

Obv.: Open diadem; below, between edges of diadem no X; around: [H]P[$\Omega\Delta$] [B]A[CI] Λ [E Ω C]

Rev.: Same as 18.

Same as 18. Cf. *TJC* 53.

21. L.A2532-5043 1.63 g 15 mm axis: ↓

Obv.: X surrounded by a diadem.

Rev.: Table with three curved legs, with vessel.

Same as 18. Cf. *TJC* 50–54.

22. L.A2500−5001 1.16 g 13×14 mm axis: \

Obv.: Anchor; around: $HP\Omega\Delta$ [BA Σ I Λ E]

Rev.: Two opposing cornucopiae with caduceus between horns; above, pellets.

HERODIUM I: HEROD'S TOMB PRECINCT

Æ, prutah. Struck in Jerusalem. TJC 59.

23. L.A2727–6063 1.56 g 15×16 mm axis: ✓

Obv.: Same as 22; around: [HPWΔ B]A[CI]

Rev.: Same as 22.

Same as 22.

24. L.A2728-2634 1.58 g 13×14 mm axis: ✓

Obv.: Same as 22; around: [HPW]Δ BA[CIΛ]

Rev.: Same as 22.

Same as 22.

25. L.A2729-6033 1.69 g 14×15 mm axis: ✓

Obv.: Same as 22; around: [HPWΔ] BACI

Rev.: Same as 22.

Same as 22.

26. L.A2731–6031 1.58 g 14×15 mm axis: ✓

Obv.: Same as 22.; around: $HP[W\Delta] BA[CI\Lambda]$

Rev.: Same as 22.

Same as 22.

27. L.A2762–6150 1.06 g 13×14 mm axis: ➤

Obv.: Same as 22.

Rev.: Same as 22.

Same as 22.

28. L.A2825–6332 1.60 g 15×16 mm axis: \(^{\scrt{\chi}}\)

Obv.: Same as 27.

Rev.: Same as 27.

Same as 27.

29. L.A2884-6475 1.84 g 15X16 mm axis: 1

Obv.: Same as 22; around: [HPW Δ B]ACI

Rev.: Same as 22.

Same as 22.

30. L.A2892–6488 2.25 g 16×18 mm axis: 1; (Pl.

10.I: 30)

Obv.: Same as 22; around: HPW[Δ BACI]

Rev.: Same as 22.

Same as 22.

31. L.A12247-10817 1.60 g 16X16 mm axis: \

Obv.: Same as 22; around: [H]PW BA[CI]

Rev.: Same as 22.

Same as 22.

32. L.A2734-6065 0.82 g 13 mm axis: \

Obv.: Anchor; around: [BACI ΛΕC H]PWΔ [OY]

Rev.: A galley sailing 1.

Æ, prutah. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC 65.

33. L.A2687–5561 1.21 g 13×14 mm axis: ←

Obv.: One cornucopia; inscription:

 $[BACI\Lambda HP]W[\Delta]$

Rev.: Eagle standing r.

Æ, half prutah. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC 66.

34. L.A2731-6032 0.32 g 13×14 mm axis: ←

Obv.: Same as 33; inscription: BACI[Λ] HP[W Δ]

Rev.: Same as 33.

Same as 33. Cf. *TJC* 66a.

35. L.A2731–6064 0.65 g 11×14 mm axis: [►]

Obv.: Same as 33; inscription: $[B]ACI[\Lambda]HPW[\Delta]$

Rev.: Same as 33.

Same as 33.

36. L.A2897-6508 1.04 g 14×15 mm axis: [►]

Obv.: Same as 33; inscription: BACI[Λ HPW Δ]

Rev.: Same as 33.

Same as 33.

37. L.12246–10486 1.10 g 12×14 mm axis: [►]

Obv.: Same as 33; inscription: [BACIΛ] H[PWΔ]

Rev.: Same as 33.

Same as 33.

38. L.12269–10735 0.90 g 13×13 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 33; inscription: [B]ACIΛ [HPW]Δ

Rev.: Same as 33.

Same as 33.

39. L.12269–10736 0.86 g 13×14 mm axis: ↓; (Pl.

10.I: 39

Obv.: Same as 33; inscription: [B]ACI[Λ] HPW[Δ]

Rev.: Same as 33.

Same as 33.

Herod Archelaus (4 BCE-6 CE)

40. L.A2656–5399 1.60 g 15 mm axis: ↓; (Pl. 10.I:

40)

Obv.: Prow of galley 1.; below: H; [above: P; on 1.:

W]

Rev.: Inscription in wreath: EΘN

Æ, prutah. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC 72.

Herod/Archelaus (37 BCE-6 CE)

41. L.A12246-10491 0.64 g 13×13 mm

Obv.: Obliterated.

Rev.: Two opposing cornucopiae with caduceus between horns.

Æ, prutah. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC 59 or 68.

THE ROMAN PREFECTS (6–36 CE)

Under Augustus (5/6–10/11 CE)

42. L.A2757-6226 2.13 g 16×17 mm axis: ?; (Pl. 10.I: 42)

Obv.: Ear of grain; around, inscription: KAICA-POC

Rev.: Palm tree; underneath, date: L- $\Lambda\Theta$ (?) (year 39 = 9 CE)

Æ, prutah. Struck under Ambibulus? Cf. TJC 313.

Under Tiberius (15–36 CE)

43. L.A2676–5517 2.19 g 16 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Inscription in wreath: TIB/K[AI/CAP]

Rev.: Palm branch; across field: IOY- Λ IA / [L]- Δ (year 4 = 17/8 CE)

Æ, *prutah*. Struck under Valerius Gratus. Cf. *TJC* 327.

AGRIPPA I (37–43 CE)

44. L.A2762–6135 2.37 g 17 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Canopy; around, inscription: [ΑΓ]PIΠ[A BACIΛEWC]

Rev.: Three ears of grain issuing from between two leaves; in field, date: L V (year 6 = 41/2 CE).

Æ, prutah. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC 120.

45. L.A2783-6223 3.10 g 18 mm axis: †; (Pl. 10.I: 45)

Obv.: Same as 44; inscription: AΓ[ΡΙΠΑ ΒΑ]CIΛEWC

Rev.: Same as 44.

Same as 44.

THE ROMAN PROCURATORS (52–62 CE)

Under Claudius (52-59 CE)

46. L.A2582−5124 3.11 g 17×19 mm axis: ↑; (Pl. 10.I: 46)

Obv.: Two oblong shields and two spears, crossed; around, inscription: N[EPW ΚΛΑΥ ΚΑΙC]ΑΡ

Rev.: Palm tree; above: BPI[T]; below, date: $L[I\Delta] / KAI$ (year 14 = 54 CE)

Æ, prutah. Struck under Antonius Felix 54 CE. Cf. TJC 340.

Under Nero (59-62 CE)

47. L.A2625–5300 2.15 g 16×17 mm axis: [►]

Obv.: Inscription in wreath: [NEP / WNO] / C

Rev.: Palm tree; above: LE K[AIC APOC] (year 5 of Nero = 58/9 CE)

Æ, prutah. Struck under Porcius Festus. Cf. TJC 345.

THE FIRST JEWISH REVOLT (66–70 CE)

Coins of the 2nd year (Nisan 67–Nisan 68 CE)

48. L.A2535-5060 3.00 g 18 mm axis: 1

Obv.: Amphora; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנת שתים (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Vine leaf with small branch and tendril; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [מרת [ציון] חרת (freedom of Zion).

Æ. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC 196.

49. L.A2581-5174 2.60 g 17 mm axis: [►]

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנות שתיןם (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48.

Same as 48.

50. L.A2651–5388 2.19 g 18×19 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 41; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנת] (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48.

Same as 48.

51. L.A2762-6149 1.70 g 15×17 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנת [שתי]ם (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48.

Same as 48.

52. L.A2775-6194 2.35 g 17×18 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שתים [שנת] (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: חרת ציון (freedom of Zion).

Same as 48.

53. L.A2891–6487 2.98 g 19 mm axis: ↓

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שרים (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: חרת [ציו] חרת (freedom of Zion).

Same as 48.

54. L.A2891-6489 3.03 g 19 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנת ש] (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48.

Same as 48.

55. L.A2604–5216 2.46 g 16×17 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [ש]נת ש[תים] (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [קר]ות ציו[ן] (freedom of Zion).

Same as 48. Cf. *TJC* 197.

56. L.A2641–5345 2.76 g 17×18 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנת ש[ת]ים (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [ת ציון] (freedom of Zion).

Same as 55.

57. L.A2651–5386 2.34 g 18 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [שנת שת[ים] (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [ת ציון] (freedom of Zion).

Same as 55.

58. L.A2773-6183 3.04 g 15×17 mm axis: ↑; (Pl. 10.I: 58)

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנת שתים (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: חרות [צי]ון (freedom of Zion).

Same as 55.

59. L.A2641–5347 3.24 g 17×18 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנת [שתי]ם (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: ח[רת צ]יון (freedom of Zion).

Same as 48. Cf. TJC 196-197.

60. L.A2651–5385 2.27 g 18×21 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 59.

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: מרמ צ]יון (freedom of Zion).

Same as 59.

61. L.A2676–5516 3.04 g 18×19 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנת [ש]תים (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 41; paleo-Hebrew inscription: ח[רת צ]יון (freedom of Zion).

Same as 59.

62. L.A2676–5520 2.86 g 18×19 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48.

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: ח[רת צי]ון (freedom of Zion).

Same as 59.

63. L.A2758-6120 3.62 g 18 mm axis: 1

Obv.: Same as 48.

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: ח[רת צ]יון (freedom of Zion).

Same as 59.

64. L.A2758-6137 2.55 g 16×17 mm axis: \(^{\scrt{N}}\)

Obv.: Same as 48.

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [חרת] (freedom of Zion).

Same as 59.

65. L.A2761-6143 2.54 g 17 mm axis: 1

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שרים (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: ח[רת צ]יון (freedom of Zion).

Same as 59.

66. L.A2762-6147 2.80 g 16×17 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48.

Rev.: Same as 65.

Same as 59.

67. L.A2826-6328 2.45 g 18 mm axis: 1

Obv.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנת ש[תי]ם (year 2 = 67/8 CE)

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [תר[ת ציון] (freedom of Zion).

Same as 59.

Coins of the 3rd year (Nisan 68-Nisan 69 CE)

68. L.A2641–5346 2.79 g 17×18 mm axis: ↑; (Pl. 10.I: 68)

Obv.: Amphora with lid; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [שנת ש[לוש] (year 3 = 68/9 C.E.)

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [ציון] חרות (freedom of Zion).

Æ. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC 205.

69. L.A2605–5252 3.00 g 17 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 68; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [שנת] ש[לוש] (year 3 = 68/9 CE)

Rev.: Same as 68; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [חרו]ת ציו[ן] (freedom of Zion).

Same as 68. Cf. *TJC* 204–206.

70. L.A2651–5382 1.42 g 9×18 mm axis: >

Obv.: Same as 68; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [שנת] ש (year 3 = 68/9 CE)

Rev.: Same as 68; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [קרות ציון] (freedom of Zion).

Same as 68. Half a coin. Cf. *TJC* 204–205.

71. L.A2758.–6123 2.31 g 17×18 mm axis: ↓

Obv.: Same as 68; paleo-Hebrew inscription: θ עונת שלו (year 3 = 68/9 C.E.)

Rev.: Same as 68; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [חרו]ת (freedom of Zion).

Same as 70.

Coins of the 2nd year (Nisan 67–Nisan 68 CE) or the 3rd year (Nisan 68–Nisan 69 CE)?

72. L.A2772–6182 1.21 g 11×17 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Amphora; inscription illegible.

Rev.: Same as 48; paleo-Hebrew inscription: [קרות ציון] (freedom of Zion).

Same as 48. Half a coin. Cf. *TJC* 196–197 or 204–205.

73. L.A2822–6331 3.12 g 16×18 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 48; inscription illegible. Rev.: Same as 48; inscription illegible.

Same as 72.

Coins of the 4th year (Nisan 69-Nisan 70 CE)

74. L.A2676–5518 5.64 g 20 mm axis: 1; (Pl. 10.I: 74)

Obv.: Cup; paleo-Hebrew inscription: לגאלת ציון (for the redemption of Zion)

Rev.: Lulav bundle between two *etrogs*; paleo-Hebrew inscription: שנת ארבע (year 4 = 69/70 CE)

Æ. Struck in Jerusalem. Cf. TJC 214.

75. L.A2745–6535 3.23 g 18 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 74.

Rev.: Same as 74.

Same as 74.

76. L.A12486–11243 6.94 g 20×21 mm axis: ↑

Obv.: Same as 74.

Rev.: Same as 74.

Same as 74.

ROMAN PROVINCIAL

Judaea Capta (71–79 CE)

77. L.2651–5384 7.70 g 21×24 mm axis: ∠; (Pl. 10.I: 77)

Obv.: Head of Titus r., laureate; AYTOKP TIT $O\Sigma AI\Sigma AP$

Rev.: Nike standing r., resting l. foot on helmet and writing with r. hand on shield resting on her knee; palm tree on r.; $IOY\Delta AIA\Sigma$ $EA\Lambda\Omega KYIA\Sigma$

Æ. Struck in Caesarea. Date: 71–73/4 CE. Cf. *TJC* 382; *RPC* II: 317, No. 2311.

HERODIUM I: HEROD'S TOMB PRECINCT

78. L.2757–6122 4.31 g 19×20 mm axis: 1; (Pl. 10.I: 78)

Obv.: Head r. Worn. Rectangular countermark depicting head of emperor to r.

Rev.: Worn. Rectangular countermark depicting war galley.

Same as 77. Date: 71–79 CE. Cf. *TJC* 380a; *GIC*: 183, No. 409.

Dora

79. L.2758–6121 9.40 g 21×22 mm axis: ↑; (Pl. 10.I: 79)

Obv.: Head of Doros r.

Rev.: Tyche standing to front, looking r. and holding a cornucopia in her l.; on r.: [Δ]W[PI]TW[N
Æ. Struck in Dora, first century CE. Cf. Meshorer *INJ* 9: 68, No. 17ff.

LATE ROMAN

80. Surface B.6036 1.39 g 13 mm axis: 1

Obv.: Bust r.

Rev.: Figure standing Æ. 4th century CE.

NOTES

- * This article is dedicated to the memory of the late Prof. Ehud Netzer, with whom I had the honor of working, and who supported and followed with interest my research on the Herodium coins.
- 1. The coins were cleaned by Miriam Lavi (Restoration & Conservation Laboratory of the Institute of Archaeology, Hebrew University of Jerusalem), and photographed by Tal Rogovski.
- 2. Spijkerman. 1972: 19, No. 57.
- 3. Jericho II: 291, Nos. 1-2; Masada I: 85, Nos. 14-16.
- 4. Bijovsky 2007: 171, No. 74.
- 5. Syon: 2004: 118; Shachar 2004: 11; Bijovsky 2005: 211
- 6. Ariel and Fontanille 2012: 179.

- 7. Ariel and Fontanille 2012: 179–180.
- 8. Ariel and Fontanille 2012: 182.
- 9. Ariel and Fontanille 2012: 182-184.
- 10. Ariel and Fontanille 2012: 184.
- 11. This table, aside from the data pertaining to Herodium, was compiled by Donald T. Ariel within the framework of his doctoral thesis (Ariel and Fontanille 2012: 165).
- 12. Foerster 1969: 124.
- 13. Netzer and Arzi 1985.
- 14. Bijovsky 2009: 76, n. 4.
- 15. Meshorer 1989: 73.
- 16. Meshorer 1986–1987: 61.

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RPC II = A. Burnett, M. Amandry, and I. Carradice, Roman Provincial Coinage II: From Vespasian to Domitian (AD 69–96), London 1999.

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