Artifact Catalog: Middle East and Europe

Cuneiform Tablet
2050 B.C (B.C.E)
Region: Ancient Sumeria
Material: Fired Clay, framed
Description: Cuneiform tablet, authenticated at British Museum. Receipt for reeds dates 12th month of the 44th year of Shulgi (which is 2050 B.C) from the region of Amma. Authenticated and translated by British Museum, London

James DeWeerd Collection DW.1968.9

Flint Sickle Teeth
1000 B.C.
Region: Ancient Philistia
Material: Flint, mounted with explanation
Description: These teeth, unearthed near Gezer (modern-day Gaza), have been dated to the tenth century B.C. and bear the patina of having been used in harvesting of grains. The display was constructed by Dr. Dale Heath of Taylor University along with an explanation of how they were originally used.

Dale Heath Collection
Scarab Seal
500 B.C.
Region: Ancient Egypt
Material: Fired, glazed clay
Description: These scarabs, the original which is dated to approximately 500 B.C. (end of the twenty-sixth dynasty) is fired clay with what once was a bright blue finish. Two casts, also included, were made from a similar scarab, which shows the hieroglyphics carved in the bottom of the scarab. A description of the sacredness of the scarab beetle is included with the models.

Dale Heath Collection

Egyptian Seal (COPY)
500 BC
Region: Ancient Babylon (purchased in Egypt)
Material: Brass
Description: This cylindrical seal is an example of ancient seals from the ancient world. This particular one features two winged horned animals (possibly the winged bulls of Babylon) with a male Persian figure between them.

Dale Heath Collection

Archives Artifact Catalog: Middle East and Europe
To see items call 998-5520 or email: rbhughes@taylor.edu
Jewish "Agrippa" Prutah  
42/43 AD  
Region: Isreal/Palestine  
Material: Bronze  
Description: The only coin that Herod Agrippa (grandson of Herod the Great) issued for circulation in the Jewish territories was the bronze prutah. The well-worn coin in our collection has been mis-struck, the three barley sheaves have been cut off. The coin as it is supposed to appear features a royal umbrella (tassels hanging down from the brim) surrounded by “King Agrippa” in Greek. ("ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΟΝ ΑΓΡΙΠΠΑ") The reverse features three ears of barley and the date LS which corresponds to the sixth year of Agrippa’s reign or AD 42/43.

Ancient Coin Collection

58/59 AD  
Jewish "Festus" Prutah  
Region: Isreal/Palestine  
Material: Bronze  
Description: Following the death of Agrippa, the Roman Emperor Claudius decided to use Roman Procurators rather than invest the volatile country in Agrippa’s adolescent son. The procurator from 58 to 62 AD was Porcius Festus, who minted this coin. The Obverse shows a palm leaf, the symbol of Isreal, with an inscription identifying this coin as having been minted in year five of Emperor Nero (AD 58/9). The back was a three-line inscription indentifying Nero as the reigning emperor surrounded by a laurel wreath tied by a tie. The inscription in our coin was badly mis-struck and more than half is missing

Ancient Coin Collection
Jewish “First Revolt” Prutah
66/70 AD
Region: Israel/Palestine
Material: Bronze
Description: These coins, both minted in the year 67/8 AD are often known as “Masada Coins” in remembrance of the last stand of the Jewish defenders at the Roman Fort. The Obverse features a narrow-necked Amphora (clay pot with long neck and two handles) with Ancient Hebrew letters translating to “Year 2” or AD 67/8. Later mints of this coin featured fancier amphorae. The Reverse has a single growing grape leaf growing from a live vine with Hebrew letters that says, “The Freedom of Zion”.

Ancient Coin Collection

Philip II Roman Denarius
244-249 A.D.
Region: Roman Empire
Material: Silver (converted into cufflinks)
Description: These denarii are two of a kind cast for Emperor Philip II during the reign of his father, Philip the Arab (r. 244-249 AD). Both ruled during the period of “Barracks Emperors”, and were victims of that same time period. Perhaps in an attempt to stabilize his throne, Philip the Arab raised his seven-year old son to co-emperor status and issued coins like these to proclaim him the future Caesar. The front shows a bust of young Philip, with a legend declaring his full name and the title Caesar. The back, partially obscured by the cufflinks, differ. One shows Philip holding a globe and a spear at the ready, the other the globe and spear.
pointed to the earth. Both have the legend declaring him the young prince. Young Philip was said to have been murdered after his father’s defeat in 249 at the hands of Decius.

*Ancient Coin Collection*

**40-nummi Coin**  
538/539 AD  
**Region:** Byzantine Empire  
**Material:** Silver  
**Description:** This very large coin was minted the first year that coin designs broke from the ancient/classical designs (profile bust) to the medieval designs (facing bust). Justinian sits facing forward, holding a globe surmounted by a cross and surrounded by a legend proclaiming him “Our Lord Justinian Augustus, Father of our Country”. The back features a large “M” (designating this a 40-nummi piece) with a cross on top and NIK on bottom (indicating it was cast at the Nicomedia Mint) The Anno XII sign indicates that this coin was minted the 12th year of the reign of Justinian, or 538/9 AD. Beautiful piece, very large coin.

*Ancient Coin Collection*

**40-nummi coin**  
586 AD  
**Region:** Byzantine Empire  
**Material:** Bronze  
**Description:** This much smaller coin is the same denomination as the other 40-nummi coin, but is much smaller and made of Bronze or copper rather than silver (likely due to inflation). The Obverse features co-rulers Justin (nephew of Justinian, the previous emperor) and his wife Sophia (niece of Theodora, previous empress)
seated together with a legend declaring Justin “Our Lord, Justin Augustus, Father of our Country” an the back showing the large M for the 40-nummi value, the symbol for the Nikomedia Mint and the year 4 of Justin’s reign, (586 AD). Good piece, front is a little degraded.

Ancient Coins Collection

Parchment document
1284
Region: France?
Material: Vellum/treated leather, foam-core and mylar frame
Description: Old Vellum document in either Latin or French. Not translated. Good condition, with small decorative/illuminated letter in upper left.

James DeWeerd Collection DW. 1966.7

Official (possibly feudal) document
1321, possibly 3 January
Region: France
Material: Vellum/treated leather, foam-core and Mylar frame
Description: Legal paper, written in medieval French (part latin, part French), concerning and tenancy or rental of land. Not fully translated.

James DeWeerd Collection DW.1966.8
“Marriage Contract”
1472
Region: England
Material: Vellum/treated leather
Description: Legal document signed with two pendant seals (intact) (possibly a marriage contract between “Elizabeth Boyd” and “Walton of Canturbury”). Appears to be in Latin. Not translated. Left-hand pendant seal shows crown with letter “R” beneath. Right seal shows Laurel Crown surrounding a profiled head.

James DeWeerd Collection DW.1966.9

Spanish Real
1492
Region: Spain
Material: Silver
Description: Isabella and Ferdinand overhauled the coinage of Spain after their reconquest of Moorish Controlled territory. Due to the fact that “Spain” was actually a dual kingdom of Castille (ruled over by Isabella) and Aragon (ruled by Ferdinand), this coin, circulated in both territories, shows the double-but-equal power. The Obverse features the yoke (Ferdinand’s symbol) and the bundle of arrows (Isabella’s symbol). The Reverse shows the complicated heraldry of Isabella and Ferdinand’s Families. Isabella of Castille’s arms (the quartered arms of Castille (a castle) and Leôn (A lion) are themselves quartered with Aragon’s arms (The halved arms of Aragon (stripes of gold and red) and Sicily (arms quartered on the diagonal of Aragon and the Siciliam Black Eagle). The bottom of the shield features the pomegranate of Granada, which was conquered by both Isabella and Ferdinand in 1492.

Edward Schramm Collection
Chant Manuscript
15\textsuperscript{th} Century
Region: Spain
Material: Vellum/treated leather
Description: Chant Manuscript: One of the earliest forms of written music, this vellum piece is written on both sides and features notes, instructions, and lyrics as well as erased or “ghost” music. Piece in very good condition: can even see the needle marks from where page was sewn into codex.

Filed with James DeWeerd Collection

King Louis XII Treasury Warrant
1509Region: France
Material: Vellum/treated leather, foam-core and mylar frame
Description: Warrant signed by and originally sealed by King Louis XII. Not translated. Seal was removed prior to donation of piece.

James DeWeerd Collection DW.1966.10

Geneva Bible (in English)
1597
Region: England
Materials: Leather, paper
Description: Printed in Geneva and distributed in England late in the reign of Elizabeth I, this Bible is exquisite in condition. It still has its original cover and binding, and is in good enough condition to be opened and read. The pages are smaller than the “official” Latin Bibles of the same time period.

James DeWeerd Collection

Latin Vulgate Bible
1603
Region: Catholic Europe
Materials: Rag Paper, synthetic cover (has been re-bound recently)
Description: This Bible was printed with the Blessing of the Catholic Church and shows the beautiful workmanship of the time. The paper is made of cotton rags and are nearly as clear and clean as they were when this was printed. It has been re-bound into a modern acid-free cover. The large size means this Bible could have been used as a church Bible, or a personal Bible for a wealthy person. There is names or an inscription crossed out on the title page, and thousands of small engravings scattered throughout the text presumably for illiterate people to understand what’s going on.

James DeWeerd Collection

William III Treasury Warrant
1695, 4 March
Region: England
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Treasury warrant signed by William III of England. Payment to be dispersed to six people for various reasons: back salaries, gifts of various amounts.

James DeWeerd Collection DW.1966.11

Royal Garrison Budget
ca. 1743-1754:
Region: England
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Budget for the Establishment of a garrison and governing body on Gibraltar. Signed by King George II, Prime Minister Henry Pelham and Naval Treasurer George Grenville and one other (“J. Campbell”). Gibraltar was won from Spain during War of Spanish Succession in 1704.

James DeWeerd Collection DW.1966.13

SPANISH MONIES IN THE AMERICAS

Spanish Dollar (Real) a.k.a. Piece of Eight
1746
Region: Spanish Colonies, American Colonies
Material: Silver
Description: The Spanish were the first to establish a mint in the New World, at Mexico City in 1536. (Later at Potosi, Bolivia and Lima, Peru in the 1700s.) The coin minted would take local mined silver and convert it into cobs. These Cobs were formed by rolling the refined silver into cylinders and cutting off cross-pieces (cobs) which would then be further trimmed until they weighed a certain amount (depending on the coin to be produced). They would then be stamped by hand.
using stamps and hammers. These coins were not really meant to be used a currency, simply a means of accounting for how much silver was being mined for the king’s benefit (he was entitled to 20% of all silver in the Americas, called the “Royal Fifth”). Once in the Old World, these Cobs were commonly melted down and made into something more portable. Most cobs now recovered come from shipwrecks. However, the colonists in Spanish-owned and English-owned Colonies used these coins as currency. Since they were pure silver, they could be cut into pie-shaped wedges for change if necessary. Usually, they were cut into eight pieces—hence the nickname “Pieces of Eight”. Our Piece of eight was minted in 1746, and shows much wear and tear. The Obverse features a portion of the Royal Heraldry, and one can make out the Lion of León, the Castle of Castille and the Roman Numeral “V”. This side has also been clearly double-struck, leading to a “ghosting” of the image. (Possibly for Philip V of the House of Bourbon). The back features the full coat of arms, and the letter “P” which would be one of the assayer’s initials. Similar cobs to this have been pulled from the wreck of the Atocha.

Edward Schramm Collection

(Pictured here is the 1746 four-Reale coin)

Spanish Four Reals (Half-Dollar or four bits)
1746, 1753
Region: Spanish and American Colonies
Material: Silver
Description: Not quite half the size of the full dollar, this cob has similar markings to the full dollar. It is dated to 1746 and could be minted on behalf of Philip V or Ferdinand VI. The Obverse shows the same type of partial-royal seal as the full dollar, but also shows a fingerprint that has been etched into the silver. The Reverse again has the royal heraldry on it and it is possible to see the signs of Castille, León, Grenada, Aragon, and Sicily on it, along with a fragment of the royal crown.

Edward Schramm Collection
**Spanish Two Real (Quarter Dollar, or 2 bits)**

1706, 1727, 1733, 1740  
**Region:** Spanish and American Colonies  
**Material:** Silver  
**Description:** Manufactured the same way as the larger denominations in this series. The 1706 and 1727 coins are from the Potosi Mint and the 1740 is from the Lima Mint (which makes them more rare than coins struck at the Mexico City Mint). All four of these coins are very worn and the 1733 coin, shows fantastic metal stress fractures from the hammer strike that marked the coins. These coins feature the “Pillars of Hercules” with a numeral “2” between them (coin’s value) along with sections for the Assayer’s initials, the year, the Mint it was manufactured at.

Edward Schramm Collection

**Spanish One Reale and one-half Reale**

Ca. 1740  
**Region:** Spanish and American Colonies  
**Material:** Silver  
**Description:** Smaller and still less detailed than the others, these coins are marked as one-bit or one reale pieces. They come from the Bourbon dynasty of Spanish kings, because the lower half of their heraldry is stamped on the back. One of the one-half pieces is literally cut in half from the whole, showing how pieces of eight and their denominations were sometimes literally used. These pieces were made in the Mexico City mint, as evidenced by the Florenzada cross on the obverse. (A cross with flared ends, and a ball set in the center of the flare.)

Edward Schramm Collection
Spanish Pillar Dollar
1753
Region: Spain and Colonies
Material: Silver
Description: In 1732, the Mexico City mint started to produce “Pillar Dollars”. These dollars we milled as planchets on machine before stamping, leading to a perfectly consistent weight and size. Once milled and weighed, they were stamped in a special device that held the edge of the coin while stamping, as well as imprinting a security design on the edge (to prevent clipping). These consistent, beautifully designed and struck coins were never made outside of the New World, and due to that consistency, they quickly became a standard coin for use throughout the New World and the trading circles. Indeed, when the Americans had to decide how to base their new currency after the Revolution, they chose to base their new monies on the Spanish Dollar (the international currency of the time) rather than the “familiar” system of pounds, shillings, etc. The Spanish Pillar Dollar was legal currency for many years, even until the late 19th century. Our Spanish dollar was minted in 1753, is still in beautiful condition, with the mint marks, assayer’s marks, and the legend clear and distinct.
Edward Schramm Collection

Maria Theresa Thaler
1780 (unknown when this specimen was struck)
Region: Austrian-Hungarian Empire
Material: Originally Silver
Description: This is the longest continuously struck and circulated coin in the world. Originally struck between 1740 and 1780, this coin was the first to open up major
trading with the Arabs. When Maria Theresa died in 1780, her son and heir Joseph II, minted some coins with his image, but they were not accepted in the Middle Eastern World, which wanted the Maria Theresa Thalers. Joseph II consequently minted more, and the coin has never been out of circulation since. It has, at times, served as the basis of economies in the Middle East and northern Africa. The Thaler is printed more or less the same as the original, making deciphering an exact strike date for an individual coin very difficult. Though Austria retired the coin from their economy in 1857, the Vienna mint still makes a few every year, and it is not uncommon to find them still traded in certain African and Middle Eastern bazaars. Our coin is in near-perfect condition.

Edward Schramm Collection

John Wesley Letter with 1836 Commentary
1788, September 1
Region: England
Materials: Paper, attached to another paper, enveloped but not sealed in mylar
Description: Letter from John Wesley to his Niece Sally comforting her after the death of her father Charles Wesley. According to a note attached to the letter by an unknown person “E.J.J” in 1836, the note was accompanied by a £90 note to allow Sally to go to the sea for her health and rest.

James DeWeerd Collection  DW.1967.1

Republic of France Warrant
1795
Region: Republic of France:
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Commission by the French Government to a certain individual dated 1795 (paper actually dated by Revolutionary dates: year 7) signed by Dupin, Thibault
Francis II Kronenthaler
1796
Region: Holy Roman Empire
Material: Silver
Description: This coin was issued by the last Holy Roman Emperor, Francis II of the Hapsburg-Lorraine line. The Obverse features Francis in profile, wearing a diadem of olive leaves with the legend that when translated and expanded reads “Francis II by the grace of God, Emperor of the Romans, Ever Supreme, King of Jerusalem, Hungary and Bohemia.” The back features a St. Andrews Cross with three crowns in the upper quarters and the Order of the Golden Fleece (of which Francis II was a member) suspended beneath. These crowns are featured on the Hapsburg-Lorraine Coat of Arms and the top one is the crown of Austria, the right one is the crown of Bohemia. The left is still unidentified, but may be the Crown of Charlemagne or the Closed Tuscan Ducal Crown. This legend reads “Archduke of Austria, Duke of Burgundy, and Lorraine, Count of Flanders, 1796”. In 1806, Francis II dissolved the Holy Roman Empire after being defeated by Napoleon at the Battle of Austerlitz and was forced to give his daughter, Maria Louise as a bride to Napoleon.

Edward Schramm Collection
The Salem Gazette
1796, September 13
Region: United States, Massachusetts
Material: Paper, not encapsulated
Description: Four page newspaper printed in Salem in 1796 covers local news (farms for sale, jobs available, elections ongoing) but also national and international (Napoleon’s wars in Europe, etc.) Transcription available

Payment Request to Napoleon Bonaparte on the Egyptian Campaign
1798
Region: France/Egypt
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Letter from Giuseppe Earhart to Napoleon Bonaparte, requesting additional land in restitution for certain deeds Earhart performed while a part of Napoleon’s Army. Napoleon signed an order to investigate this claim on the same paper, and the backside of the paper is covered with the results of said investigation in French and Arabic, in which the officers conclude that Earhart did not perform such deeds as would necessitate the awarding of additional land. Written in Italian, French and Arabic languages. Translation not available, though summary is. Written and sent during the Egyptian Campaign

James DeWeerd Collection  DW.1966.12
Ferdinand III of Sicily 12-Tari Coin  
1800  
Region: Sicily  
Material: Silver  
Description: These coins were produced by Ferdinand the III of Sicily (Ferdinand IV of Naples) during his reign. The top of our coin has been scraped to the bare Planchet, but the Legend read (italics conjectured) “Ferdinan III D.G. Sicil Et Hier Rex” Which translates to “Ferdinand III by the grace of God, King of Sicily and Naples”. The back features the Eagle of the Hapsburgs with the Coat of Arms for Ferdinand. The legend reads “Hispania Infans”.  
Edward Schramm Collection

Letter from Arthur Wellesly, later Duke Wellington  
1811, August 4  
Region: England  
Materials: Paper, encapsulated  
Description: Letter from Arthur Wellesly, later Viscount, later Earl, later Marquess, and later Duke Wellington. He would also become Prime Minister in 1828. In this letter, he states that it is impossible for “General Hervey” to leave for England at this time, and that when all the men who are up for promotion to be made Lieutenants, that they be made Lieutenants together. A fascinating look at Wellington while he was a no-name second son soldier in the British Army.  
James DeWeerd Collection  DW.1967.2
English Crown featuring George III
1819
Region: England
Material: Silver
Description: This coin features the bust of George III on the obverse with the legend “GEORGIUS III D.G. BRITANNIARUM REX F.D. 1819” which translates to “George III by the grace of God, King of Britain, defender of the Faith.” This is rather ironic, since that title was awarded to Henry VIII by Pope Leo X, who later broke with the Catholic Church. The title never showed up on coins until this one. The back features St. George killing the Dragon with the legend “Honi Soit Qui Mal y Pense” which translated from the French means “Shame on him who thinks evil of it.” St. George supplanted St. Edward the Confessor as the patron saint of England during the reign of Edward III. The legend is the motto of the Order of the Garter which was also founded by Edward III. The Edge Legend is “ANNO REGNI LIX DECUS ET TUTAMEN” The first part commemorates the 59th year of George III’s reign, the second part translates into either “Honor and Defense” or “Ornament and safeguard”. It is unknown whether this refers to the reigning monarch, or the fact that the edge legend guarantees that clipping cannot occur on the coin. The Decus et Tutamen legend has appeared on every milled coin in England history starting in 1662. This coin was struck during the last year of George III’s reign and by this time, George III is completely mad and shut up in Windsor Castle, leaving George IV in charge of the country as Prince Regent. Since George III was insane, the profile was taken from an earlier die.

Edward Schramm Collection

1822—(England):
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Signed by Hymn writer and English poet James Montgomery; a receipt for 25 pounds from the Treasurer of the Methodist Auxiliary Missionary Society

Archives Artifact Catalog: Middle East and Europe
To see items call 998-5520 or email: rbhughes@taylor.edu
James DeWeerd Collection  DW.1966.2

Franz Liszt Letter
1850, July 10
Region: Germany
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Letter from Franz Liszt to a friend telling him that the friend’s compositions have been accepted by Liszt’s patroness the Grand Duchess. Written in German, translation available.

James DeWeerd Collection  DW.1966.24

David Livingstone Letter
1858, 1 March
Region: United Kingdom
Materials: Paper, repaired and encapsulated
Description: Letter written by David Livingstone to friend taking up invitation to stay with them. Handwritten, signed.

James DeWeerd Collection  DW.1967.5

Rudolph Virchow Letter
1864, March 12
Region: Germany
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Letter from Rudolph Virchow, the "Father of Pathology". This letter, sent to a Miss Ada Fudt indicates the letter was accompanied by money or cheque or a stone for a building Ms. Fudt is in charge on behalf of the Americans. He references the American Civil War. Written in German, a transcription and translation are available with this document.

*James DeWeerd Collection, DW.1968.10*

Victor Hugo Letter
1879, October 26
Region: France
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Letter of encouragement from Victor Hugo to unknown recipient encouraging said recipient to work and hope. Written in French, translation available.

*James DeWeerd Collection  DW.1968.8*

Alfred Tennyson Autograph
1809-1892—(England):
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Note written and signed by Alfred Tenneyson.

*James DeWeerd Collection, DW.1967.12*

Louis Pasteur Business Card and Signature
1822-1895
Region: France
Materials: Photograph printed on cardstock, cardstock business card, both encapsulated
Description: Photograph and business card of Louis Pasteur, French microbiologist who confirmed the germ theory of disease and invented pasteurization. Business card has personal note written in French by Pasteur on the face.

*James DeWeerd Collection DW.1968.5*

---

**Sir Francis Galton Letter**
1899, Feb 27
Region: United Kingdom
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Personal note written to a “Mr(s). Nobb” by Sir Francis Galton, father of Eugenics.

*James DeWeerd Collection DW.1966.16*

---

**John Philip Sousa Letter**
1905, Feb 14
Region: Scotland
Materials: Paper, encapsulated
Description: Addressed to Messers. Methven, Simpson Ltd, Mr. Sousa exults that a horse, then boat and now finally a piano is being named in his honor. He hopes this new piano (presumably designed or sold by the recipients) combines the qualities of a Grand, Square and upright piano.

*James DeWeerd Collection DW.1967.9*
Winston Scrapbook
1910-1915
Region: Belgium
Materials: Leather Book with newspaper scraps glued in. Some Photographs
Description: Fascinating scrapbook created in the early twentieth century by someone in the family of Arthur Winston, American Ambassador to Belgium. It reads as a “Who’s Who” of Europe on the cusp of WWI. Marriages, divorces, scandals, riots, politics are all highlighted here.

Picasso Guernica Prep Drawings
1937
Region: America (where drawings were done) Spain (home country of the artist and site of “inspiration”
Material: Paper, mounted on matboard
Description: After the attack on Guernica Spain during the Spanish Civil War, Picasso did a series of forty-five drawings in preparation for the famous painting. Today, they are displayed alongside the painting in Spain. These preparatory drawings were copied and authorize by the Prado Museum as a limited edition for the anniversary of Guernica. These show the creative process Picasso went through to create the iconic painting. Drawings come in box with book explaining the steps Picasso went through when designing these drawings.