

Babylon

Important Dates

- 331 BCE: Alexander the Great captured Babylon and began minting coins there.
- 323 BCE: Alexander dies at Babylon.
- 318 BCE: Seleucus I established a second Babylonian mint.
- 315 BCE: Seleucus I fled Babylon. Coin minting paused.
- 311 BCE: Seleucus I returned to Babylon. Coin minting resumed.



Fig. 1: *Double Daric*. 322-315 BCE. Gold. Bibliothèque Nationale de France

Fig. 2: *Pseudo-Athenian Tetradrachm*. 350-300 BCE. Silver. Bibliothèque Nationale de France.

Fig. 3: *Silver Tetradrachm of Alexander III of Macedon*. 331-325 BCE. Silver, 25 MM. American Numismatic Society.

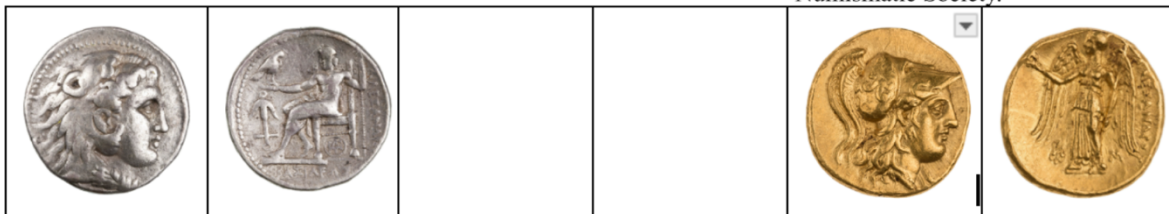


Fig. 4: *Silver Tetradrachm of Seleucus I Nicator*. 315-311 BCE. Silver. American Numismatic Society.

Fig. 5: *Gold Stater of Alexander III of Macedon*. 325-323 BCE. Gold, 18.5 MM. American Numismatic Society.

Mint Marks

- Mint marks are marks on coins that were used to indicate the magistrate or official who was responsible for issuing a series of coins.
 - Mint marks were a letter, a monogram, or a symbol/image.
- Secondary mint marks were used to indicate a second official associated with the issue of a coin series.

Further Reading

On Babylonian History

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On the Achaemenid Persian Empire in Babylon

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Bivar, Adrian David Hugh. 1985. "Achaemenid Coins, Weights and Measures." In *The Cambridge History of Iran: Median and Achaemenian Period*, edited by Illya Gershevitch, 610-639. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

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On Coinage of the Hellenistic Period (323-30 BCE)

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Taylor, Lloyd W. H. 1989, 2018. "The Earliest Alexander III Tetradrachm Coinage of Babylon: Iconographic Development and Chronology." *American Journal of Numismatics*, vol. 30: 1-44.