

Denmark

The Institution

Name	Royal Collection of Coins and Medals, Copenhagen
Address	Royal Collection of Coins and Medals Danish National Museum 1220 Copenhagen Denmark
Responsible person	Jørgen Steen Jensen (joergen.steen.jensen@natmus.dk)
Supporting Institution	Danish National Museum
Start	1801
Organisation / structure	According to laws going back to the Middle Ages, coin finds belong to the king, i.e. the state. Today these provisions are formulated in the Law of Museums of 7 June 2001, § 30. Formerly the aim was to get precious metal to the State Treasury, today it is to recover archaeological items. The Law states that the National Museum takes care of the finds. According to formal arrangements, Local Museums throughout the country are the State representative concerning archaeology in their region. They collect the coins and information about the find spot and circumstances and then pass them on the National Museum.
Infrastructure	Library: The Registration of coins from Danish finds are an important part of the daily work at The Royal Collection of Coins and Medals, consequently the numismatic library of the Royal Collection of Coins and Medals is available for this job. The library is one of the more important numismatic libraries of Northern Europe. Laboratories: No independent laboratories. Access to the Museum laboratories. IT: No independent IT. Access to the Museum's IT Photography: No independent photo equipment. Access to the Museum's photographers
Budget 2004	No independent budget (the budget is part of the budget of the Royal Collection of Coins and Medals).
Posts 2004	No independent staff. Jørgen Steen Jensen (Keeper), Helle Horsnæs and Jens Christian Moesgaard (Assistant Keepers); on average ca. 50 % of the work time of the Coin Department is spent on the coin finds.
Volunteers	None
History / development	See under 'Organisation / structure' above. The Royal Coin Collection was part the Royal Cabinet of Curiosities ('Kunstkammer'). In 1780, it was constituted as an independent administrative unit, which in 1898 became part of the National Museum. In 1801, a find register was started, and finds were described in more or less detail. The king and later the Museum picked coins from finds for their collection. From ca. 1900 on, finds were generally kept as a whole. From the 1950s on, church floor finds arrived in huge numbers, and from the 1970s, the use of metal detectors by archaeologist as well as private individuals has increased considerably the amount of finds. Total number of finds registered November 2004: more than 7,000 finds (each comprising between 1 and 80,000 coins.

The Data

What is taken into consideration?

Geographical	Denmark
Chronological	Antiquity and Middle-Ages; Modern and contemporary: only hoards and finds of particular interest.
Type of objects	Coins an other numismatic objects.
Type of finds	Hoards; single finds before 1536, unless of particular interest

Recorded information	Units / complex: 6,910 finds, each comprising between 1 and 80'000 coins (15.7.2004). Short description / <i>registrae</i> : 6,910 finds, each comprising between 1 and 80,000 coins (15.7.2004). Individual objects: No global figure available. Publications on coin finds integrated (see below).
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Type of recorded information

Units / complex	Based on original documentations (museums, archaeological services). Recorded criteria: Person and/or institution sending the find to the Museum, find-spot (place name, parish name, county name and number according to the system used by the National Board of Archaeology), finder, find circumstances (excavation, metal-detector find, etc.; hoard or single find).
Individual objects	Based on originals and on original documentations. Recorded criteria: Issuing power (state, ruler), denomination, date, mint, references to standard literature.

Type of recording

Finds are registered in a hand-written Find Register. The National Museum has developed a database for the inventory of its collections, but it has not yet been adapted for coins.

Consultation and availability of the data

In print	Published in the annual report of the National Board of Archaeology
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Co-operation

National with other coin finds projects:

No other national Find inventory projects.

International with other coin finds project:

Informal collaboration with colleagues in neighbouring countries.

National with related sciences:

Information about the coin finds are passed on to the National Board of Archaeology, which include them in their database on finds from Denmark. <http://www.dkconline.dk/>

Informal collaboration with Archaeologist from the National Museum and Local Museums

International with related sciences:

Informal collaboration with colleagues in neighbouring countries.

Perspectives / Planning 2005-2010

Work on coin finds will continue as outlined above.

Copenhagen, 15.7.2004

Jørgen Steen Jensen
Jens Christian Moesgaard

Publications

Monographs:

STEEN JENSEN, J. – BENDIXEN, K. – LIEBGOTT, N.-K. *et al.*, *Danmarks middelalderlige Skattefund c. 1050–c. 1550* [Denmark's mediaeval treasure-hoards c. 1050–c. 1550]. Del 1. *Indledning. Fundkatalog c. 1050–c. 1241* [Part 1. *Introduction. Catalogue of hoards c. 1050–c. 1241*] (*Nordiske Fortidsminder. Serie A, Bind 12,1*), København 1992.

STEEN JENSEN, J. – BENDIXEN, K. – LIEBGOTT, N.-K. *et al.*, *Danmarks middelalderlige Skattefund c. 1050–c. 1550* [Denmark's mediaeval treasure-hoards c. 1050–c. 1550]. Del 2. *Fundkatalog fra c. 1241–c. 1550. Registre* [Part 2. *Introduction. Catalogue of hoards c. 1241–c. 1550. Indices*] (*Nordiske Fortidsminder. Serie B, Bind 12,2*), København 1992.

A yearly report comprising units/complex and short descriptions / registries is published (until 1987 in *Nordisk Numismatisk Årsskrift*, from 1985 in *Arkæologiske Udgravninger i Danmark*, published by the National Board of Archaeology).

More detailed reports on selected finds are published in various journals, etc., e.g. BENDIXEN, K., *Skatten fra Lundby Krat, de danske mønter*, København 1993.

The Project

Name	Corpus of Roman Coin Finds from Denmark
Address	Royal Collection of Coins and Medals Danish National Museum 1220 Copenhagen Denmark
Responsible person	Helle W. Horsnæs (helle.horsnaes@natmus.dk)
Supporting institution	Royal Collection of Coins and Medals, Danish National Museum
Start	1999
Planned duration (ending)	2005-2010
Organisation / structure	Part of the normal museum work.
Infrastructure	Library: access to museum library. Laboratories: access to museum laboratories. IT: access to museum facilities. Photography: access to museum facilities.
Budget 2004	No independent budget (part of the normal museum work).
Posts 2004	None (part of the normal museum work of H. Horsnæs).
Volunteers	None.
History / development	From the 1960s to the 1980s, a number of articles have surveyed finds of Roman coins in Denmark. Since the 1980s, metal detecting has greatly increased the number of finds, and a need for an up-dated survey has been felt for a long time. Until now the project has consisted of a work database. The information has not yet been thoroughly checked.

The Data

What is taken into consideration?

Geographical	Modern Denmark
Chronological	Antiquity
Type of objects	Coins and other numismatic objects
Type of finds	Hoards and single finds
Recorded information	Individual objects: ca. 5'000 records.

Type of recorded information

Individual objects	Based on originals, on original documentations (museums, archaeological services) and on coin find publications Recorded criteria: Identification (emperor, type, mint, date, weight, reference), find spot, find type (hoard etc.), administrative data (inv. no., deposition, etc.).
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Type of recording

Database	Access
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Consultation and availability of the data

	The data is not yet in a form to be communicated.
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Co-operation

International with other coin finds project: Informal, personal contacts with other Roman coin finds projects

Perspectives / Planning 2005-2010

It is hoped to continue to add to the database, and to refine the information in it.

Copenhagen, 15.7.2004

Helle W. Horsnæs

Publications

e. g. HORSNÆS, H. W., « New gold hoards from Bornholm with rare types of Valentinian III solidi », *RN* 2002, p. 119-126.