

Numismatic and Archaeological Collecting in Northern Sicily during the First Half of the Nineteenth Century

Antonino Crisà

BAR International Series 2411
2012

Published by

Archaeopress
Publishers of British Archaeological Reports
Gordon House
276 Banbury Road
Oxford OX2 7ED
England
bar@archaeopress.com
www.archaeopress.com

BAR S2411

Numismatic and Archaeological Collecting in Northern Sicily during the First Half of the Nineteenth Century

© Archaeopress and A Crisà 2012

ISBN 978 1 4073 1009 1

Printed in England by Information Press, Oxford

All BAR titles are available from:

Hadrian Books Ltd
122 Banbury Road
Oxford
OX2 7BP
England
www.hadrianbooks.co.uk

The current BAR catalogue with details of all titles in print, prices and means of payment is available free from Hadrian Books or may be downloaded from www.archaeopress.com

Contents

PRESENTATION.....	3
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION.....	4
[I.1] Method and archival research	4
[I.2] The State Archive of Palermo	4
[I.3] The Archive of the Mandralisca Foundation in Cefalù	4
[I.4] Archaeological safeguard in Sicily (1778-1827).....	5
[I.5] Archaeological safeguard in Sicily (1827-1861).....	6
[I.6] Archaeological safeguard in Sicily (1861-1875).....	7
[I.7] Sicilian antiquarianism during the first half of the nineteenth century	8
CHAPTER II: PALERMO	9
[II.1] Early antiquarian collections of the eighteenth century	9
[II.2] The history of the Museum of Palermo (1814-2012)	10
[II.3] T. Gandolfo's coin collection: introduction	11
[II.4] T. Gandolfo's coin collection: purchase (1820).....	13
[II.5] T. Gandolfo's coin collection: arrangement of the Coin Cabinet (1821)	15
[II.6] T. Gandolfo's coin collection: new purchases (1822)	17
[II.7] T. Gandolfo's coin collection: conclusion	18
[II.8] A biographic account on Baron Antonino Astuto.....	18
[II.9] Baron Astuto and his antiquarian collection	19
[II.10] Published documentation on Baron Astuto's collection	20
[II.11] Baron Astuto's collections: the inheritors and the sale proposals (1823-1827).....	21
[II.12] Baron Astuto's collections: G. La Barbera and purchase negotiations (1858)	22
[II.13] Baron Astuto's collections: the epilogue and the final acquisition (1859-1860)	25
[II.14] Baron Astuto's collections: conclusion	26
[II.15] Giarre (1832): ancient coins for the Museum of Palermo.....	27
CHAPTER III: CEFALÙ AND LIPARI.....	29
[III.1] Biography of Enrico Pirajno, Baron of Mandralisca	29
[III.2] Letters of E. Pirajno	30
[III.3] E. Pirajno's inheritance: testament, Lyceum and Foundation	31
[III.4] E. Pirajno and archaeology: Lipari.....	32
[III.5] E. Pirajno and archaeology: Cefalù	32
[III.6] E. Pirajno and archaeology: the antiquarian collection	33
[III.7] E. Pirajno and numismatics: collecting	33
[III.8] E. Pirajno and numismatics: the work on Lipara.....	34
[III.9] E. Pirajno and numismatics: parallel interests.....	35
[III.10] E. Pirajno and numismatics: coin collection	35
[III.11] Cefalù (1824): discovery of gold Arab coins at the Vallone	36
CHAPTER IV: TINDARI.....	38
[IV.1] Antiquarianism and coin collecting in the late eighteenth century.....	38
[IV.2] The early nineteenth century and the “case Fagan”	39
[IV.3] From the Commission's excavations to the Italian Unification	41
[IV.4] The collection of the Barons Sciacca della Scala.....	42
[IV.5] Research of Pirajno at Tindari: methods and edited documentation	43
[IV.6] Research of Pirajno at Tindari: archaeological finds	44
[IV.7] Research of Pirajno at Tindari: numismatic finds and Agathyrnos	44
CHAPTER V: MESSINA	46
[V.1] G. Grosso Cacopardo: biography	46
[V.2] G. Grosso Cacopardo: coin collecting and correspondents	46
[V.3] G. Grosso Cacopardo: the hoard of Capo Schiso (Naxos, 1853).....	47
[V.4] G. Grosso Cacopardo: the numismatic collection	48
[V.5] Messina (1845): export of ancient coins for the King of Bavaria.....	49
CONCLUSION	51
APPENDIX I: TOMMASO GANDOLFO'S COIN COLLECTION (1820-1822).....	55

APPENDIX II: ANTONINO ASTUTO'S ANTIQUARIAN COLLECTION (1823-1860).....	89
APPENDIX III: GIARRE (1832): ANCIENT COINS FOR THE MUSEUM OF PALERMO	113
APPENDIX IV: ENRICO PIRAJNO, BARON OF MANDRALISCA (1855-1926)	117
APPENDIX V: CEFALÙ (1824): DISCOVERY OF GOLD ARAB COINS AT THE VALLONE.....	120
APPENDIX VI: MESSINA (1845): EXPORT OF ANCIENT COINS FOR THE KING OF BAVARIA.....	123
TABLES	125
Table I: Archival records examined.....	125
Table II: Coin hoards (province of Messina, first half of the nineteenth century).	126
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	127
ABBREVIATIONS.....	139
Short forms	139
Archival records abbreviations	139
LIST OF OFFICES AND AUTHORITIES (ENGLISH-ITALIAN TRANSLATION).....	142
INDEX	143
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.....	149
ILLUSTRATIONS	150