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II

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ACTA NUMISMATICA HUNGARICA

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Abbreviations of Journals and Periodicals

ActaNumHung	Acta Numismatica Hungarica. Budapest.
AECO	Archivum Europae Centro Orientalis. Budapest.
ArchÉrt	Archaeologiai Értesítő. Budapest.
ArsDec	Ars Decorativa. Az Iparművészeti Múzeum és a Hopp Ferenc Keletázsiai Művészeti Múzeum Évkönyve. Budapest.
AT	Antik Tanulmányok. Studia Antiqua. Budapest.
BIMf	Blätter für Münzfreunde. Leipzig-Dresden-Halle-Heidelberg.
BolNum	Bollettino di Numismatica. Roma.
CommArchHung	Communicationes Archaeologicae Hungariae. Budapest.
DissArch	Dissertationes Archaeologicae ex Instituto Archaeologico Universitatis de Rolando Eötvös nominatae. Budapest.
Érem	Az Érem. Budapest.
FolArch	Folia Archaeologica. Budapest.
FolHist	Folia Historica. Budapest.
HaRég	Határtalan Régészet. Szeged.
HtMÉ	A Hadtörténeti Múzeum Értesítője. Budapest.
MEFRA	Mélanges d'Archéologie et d'Histoire de l'École Française de Rome. Rome.
MFME MonArch	Móra Ferenc Múzeum Évkönyve – Monumentum Archaeologica. Szeged.
MK	Múzeumi Közlemények. Budapest.
MM	Magyar Múzeumok. Budapest.
MÖNG	Mitteilungen der Österreichischen Numismatischen Gesellschaft in Wien. Wien.
Művészet	Művészet. Budapest.
Numizmatičar	Numizmatičar, Beograd.
NK	Numizmatikai Közlöny. Budapest.
NZ	Numismatische Zeitschrift. Wien.
Pontica	Pontica. Studii și materiale de istorie, arheologie și muzeografie. Constanta.
RégFüz	Régészeti Füzetek, Budapest.
RIN	Rivista Italiana di Numismatica. Milano.
Stratpl	Stratum plus. Archaeology and Cultural Anthropology. Kishinev.
TÜBA-KED	Kültür Envanteri Dergisi – Journal of Cultural Inventory, Online Journal.
ZiStA	Ziridava Studia Archaeologica. Arad.

Duke Bernhard's coinage – did a mint operate in Tschätesch?

Szilárd TÓTH

One who has at least a little knowledge on the Friesach-type coinage is also aware of the fact that a wide range of coin types appeared at the beginning of the 13th century. The number of official mints increased, and by this time, lay and religious leaders operated several workshops. Some mints were opened near silver mines, others by important commercial routes. And the significant increase in the amount of officially issued money, as well as the growing popularity of coins, also brought about the appearance of counterfeiting workshops.

In the past years I had the opportunity to analyse a great number of Friesach-type coins, thanks to Hungarian museums, as well as local and foreign collectors. After recognizing the significance of dies, I deliberately started to search for coins that can be associated or linked with one another.

In the course of the analysis of dies, we are looking for coins manufactured by the same tool. A comparison is necessary of the tiniest details of the images on two or more coins. It is important to note that in the case of the Friesach-type coins – in contrast with the practice a few hundred years later – all dies were carved individually, and no special tools were used for the shaping of letters, or certain images on the die. This “uniqueness” is an advantage, since a differently carved letter or a possible mistake may be a good starting point for the comparison. It is sometimes not possible to compare entire images where coins have been struck more than once by the die causing damage to the image.

If we can prove that two or more coins were made with the same tool, we may assume that the coins were produced in the same mint. In certain cases we can also observe that a die wears out (e.g. it cracks), and thus we can place coins in a chronological order. By “supplementing” the damaged coin images, we can see the original image of the die and read the inscriptions. The most important is, however, that we can form complete groups on the basis of the hybrids of identical dies, which may support or contradict earlier results based on different methods.

By applying my analysis of the dies used to strike coins issued by the mints of Bernhard, Duke of Carinthia at St Veit and Tschatesch I aim to offer a fresh perspective.

St. Veit

In his study published in 1949, Egon Baumgartner associated three hybrid coin types (CNA Cr 23, 25 and 26) with the mint of St. Veit. While he determined the exact date of issue of 10 other coin types associated with Duke Bernhard, he failed to do so in the case of the abovementioned hybrids. Moreover, a coin type that he had also associated with this mint was later proved to have been struck elsewhere.

In the 'Corpus Nummorum Austriacum' published in 1994, Bernard Koch presented the three types in question as issues of a different, unknown mint. Neither did he agree with Baumgartner on the issue dates of the denars.

I assume that if the pieces in question were produced in the mint of St. Veit, the dies of the normal types (CNA Cb 13, 14, 15, and 16) would have been used for them, which could be proved by an analysis of the dies.

Figure 1 displays the presumed connection between the coins:

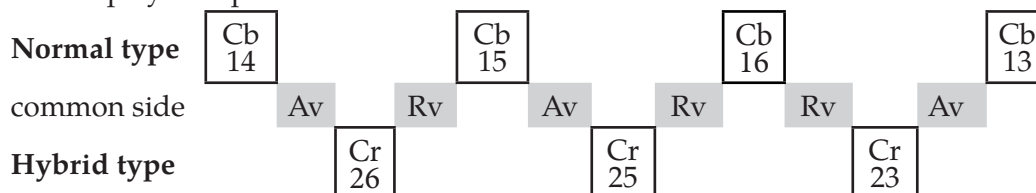


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

At the commencement of my research, I was only able to analyse pieces held in private collections, therefore hybrids were the centre of my attention. Two pieces each of types Cr 23 and Cr 25, and a single piece of Cr 26 were available to me.

My first step was to compare these individual hybrid coins with each other and then against examples known to originate from the mint. By means of photographs taken by me and a photo-editing programme I overlaid the photographs to examine them for points of similarity. By this method it would become evident whether or not these coins had been struck by the same die.



Fig. 3

The results of the analysis are as follows:

Cr 23 (Fig. 2)

- The two pieces originate from different obverse and reverse dies.
- One reverse displays the trace of a crack on the die.
- The obverse die of the other coin is identical with that of denar Cb 13.

Cr 25 (Fig. 3)

- The two pieces were produced with identical obverse but different reverse dies.
- The obverse die is identical with a Cb 15 denar.
- And one of the reverse dies with a Cb 16 denar.

Cr 26 (Fig. 4)

- The obverse die is identical with that of one of the Cb 15 pieces.

In conclusion: the analysis of the dies answers the decades-long question, and we can state that all three denars were issued by Duke Bernhard from the mint of St. Veit.

Fuelled by these results, I continued my research with the Friesach-type coins kept in the Coins Collection of the Hungarian National Museum.¹ For over a century a very special coin had been hidden away in this collection of thousands of pieces. It had not been included in any catalogue and even when it emerged it was incorrectly described.²

In 1911 some 7594 medieval coins came to light in Abapuszta near Balkány in Szabolcs County. Dr. Pál Harsányi published the exceptional find in the Numismatic Bulletin (*Numizmatikai Közlöny*): "Although this magazine only briefly mentions these kind of finds, this one is worth a more detailed description, since it includes many variants of certain main coin types, together with some new types..."



Fig. 5

The author also published a drawing (Fig. 5) and a description of this piece: "1 piece with the same obverse. (1,07 gr.) On the reverse a capped, facing figure in armour, with a cross on the right, which terminates in a circle on the bottom, and a cross or lily on the left"

Both the description and the drawing of this piece are partly incorrect, due to the damaged coin image. The correct description is:

- Obverse inscription: + DVX BER-NARDVS,
 Obverse image: the duke is illustrated in a long mail shirt, with a cross in his right hand, and a flag in his left
 Reverse image: two-headed eagle with extended wings, under a wall with three towers.

Although Arnold Luschin-Ebengreuth published most of the types known at that time in his catalogue issued in 1923,³ for some reason, the discussed coin was left out, just as it was in the works of Egon Baumgartner⁴ and Bernard Koch⁵.

1 I hereby say thanks to Dr. Csaba Tóth for making this possible.

2 Coin Collection of the Hungarian National Museum, Inv. nr.: 106A/911-26.

3 LUSCHIN 1923.

4 BAUMGARTNER 1949.

5 KOCH 1994.



Fig. 6

Based on the style of the image and the design of the characters I anticipated that this is another hybrid originating from St. Veit. I compared this piece with the Cb 15 and Cb 16-type denars. Through die analysis, I was able to verify its relation with both coin types and I can therefore confirm this so far unknown hybrid also comes from St. Veit.

By demonstrating the relations between the presented Cb 15 – Cb 16 – Cr 25 dies (Fig. 7), it can be seen that the specimens of the two basic types and the two hybrids were produced at the same time. It can be seen that both die pairs were used in parallel, and the new dies were used alongside the older until the older were worn out.

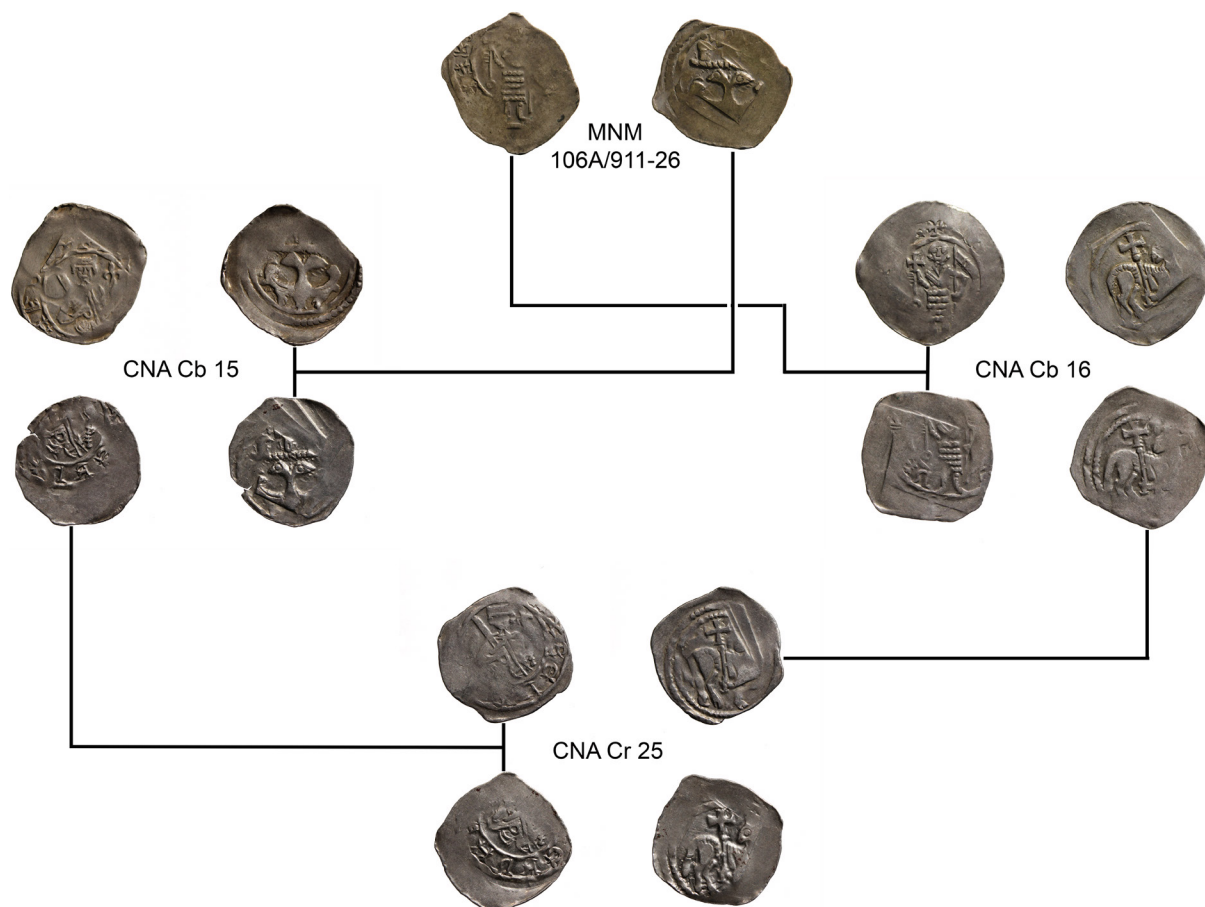


Fig. 7

As I have mentioned above, Baumgartner attributed exact dates to Duke Bernhard's St. Veit issues⁶ which Koch did not accept, and even modified their order in part. In Figure 8, I marked the CNA number on the left side of the coins and Baumgartner's dating on the right side. Researchers probably reached these conclusions following metrological analysis and in light of other items uncovered at the same time.

6 BAUMGARTNER 1949, 86., POHL 1975.



Fig. 8

Based on the connections revealed by the analysis of the dies, the order changes compared to both earlier concepts, and evidently, the list expands with the hybrids.



Fig. 9

Tschatesch

Based on the CNA Cp 1 type, Baumgartner was the first to raise the possibility of the existence of a mint here.⁷ Subsequent publications asserted this as fact and even listed another coin as having been minted there. Baumgartner based the existence of this mint to the reverse inscription of Cp 1: + ShATCSÖN⁸, and later Koch published the same inscription with Type Cp 2 incorrectly in the CNA.⁹ The correct inscriptions of Type Cp 2 are: + NDSCTIARS and + ..IT....ACS. Baumgartner also discussed the high quality of the obverse image, adding that it is even better than that of the copied denar from St. Veit (Cb 13).¹⁰

During my research I aimed to find all the available pieces of both types (*Tab. 1*).

Type	Inventory number	Obverse die	Reverse die
Cp 1	MNM: 124/883-63	A	1
Cp 1	MNM: 52/897-15 (1)	A	2
Cp 1	MNM: 52/897-15 (2)	A	2
Cp 1	KHM: MA 12508	A	2
Cp 1	KHM: MA 12509	A	1
Cp 1	Hoard: Kopáncs-puszta	A	2
Cp 1	Pogačnik katalógus	A	2
Cp 2	MNM: 106A/911-1 (1)	B	3
Cp 2	MNM: 106A/911-1 (2)	B	3
Cp 2	MNM: 106A/911-1 (3)	B	3
Cp 2	MNM: 52/897-6	B	3
Cp 2	MNM: 97A/905-23 (1)	B	3
Cp 2	KHM: MA 12507	B	3
Cp 2	Hoard: Bánhida	B	3
Cp 2	Hoard: Bánhida	B	3
Cp 2	HDRauch Summer Auction 2013 (3563)	B	3
Cp 2	Private collection: Sauer	B	3
Cp 2	Private collection I.	B	4

Tab. 1

Although, unfortunately, I have not been able to obtain any information regarding the pieces in the Narodni Muzej Slovenijen in Ljubjana, I am certain that they store specimens of the abovementioned coins. Albin Pogačnik remarks in his Slovenian catalogue published in

7 Meaning of Cp: the mint of Tschatesch.

8 BAUMGARTNER 1959, 39.

9 KOCH 1994, 210.

10 BAUMGARTNER 1959, 39.

2008¹¹ that both coin types can be found in private collections as well as in the collection of the Slovenian National Museum. (The Cp 2-type piece published in the catalogue is identical to the one in Sauer's collection,¹² and the CNA also publishes a photo of this coin.)

At least two pieces of Type Cp 1, and one of Type Cp 2 can be found in the collection of the Kunsthistorisches Museum of Vienna, and photographs of these pieces are also available online at the museum's website.¹³

The greatest number of both coin types are stored in the Coin Collection of the Hungarian National Museum: 3 pieces of Cp 1 and 8 pieces of Cp 2.

Further pieces can be found in recent coin finds in Hungary, such as the Cp 1 specimen from the assortment of items recovered at Kopáncs-Puszta,¹⁴ and the two Cp 2 pieces from Bánhida.¹⁵ In addition, a Cp 2 coin appeared in the H. D. Rauch auction in 2013.¹⁶

Based on the available coins, I came to the conclusion that manufacturers used one obverse (A, B) and two reverse (1, 2 and 3, 4) dies for each coin types (Table 1).¹⁷ The two obverse dies appear to have been used to mint only a few amount coins. While observing the coins my attention was drawn to the similarity with the pieces from St. Veit. I was able to identify a hybrid specimen from a private collection which had been produced with the Cp 1 "A" obverse and one of the Cp 2 ("4") reverse tools (Fig. 10).



Fig. 10

After a thorough examination of this hybrid coin type, it became clear that it was practically identical with Type Cp 13 of the St. Veit mint, therefore I continued my research in the Coin Collection of the Hungarian National Museum. As I noted in Table 2, I also found a similar hybrid in the Coin Collection. However, it is even more important that by means of the additional connections I could identify further coins as Type Cb 13 of St. Veit. More precisely, I could link a new, "C" obverse with the reverse die number "4", which can also be connected to further reverses (5, 6 and 7). And then a new "D" obverse to reverse number "5", and to that a new reverse "8". It is important that reverse number "6" is a yet unpublished variant of the Cb 13 denar, since the central element is not a cross but a point.

In Fig. 11 I divided the obverses and reverses into two groups for a better overview.

It is important to touch upon the reverse inscription of the Cb 13 denar. In the CNA it is wrongly displayed as + SANCTVS. In most cases we can only find its damaged variants with repeating, replaced, incorrect, or occasionally missing letters. (Tab. 2)

11 POGAČNIK 2008.

12 I owe thanks to Susanne and Peter Sauer for this data.

13 Münzkabinett Features no. 12507, 12508, and 12509.

14 I hereby say thanks to György Kerekes for the data.

15 While analysing the find, Márton Gyöngyössi incorrectly identified the pieces no. 21/15 and 21/19 as Type Cb 13, they actually belong to Type Cp 2.

16 I also owe thanks to the H. D. Rauch auction house for the data.

17 There are pieces with the same inventory number of the Hungarian National Museum both in Tables 1 and 2. The reason for that is that pieces arriving at the museum at the same time were often listed under the same inventory number.

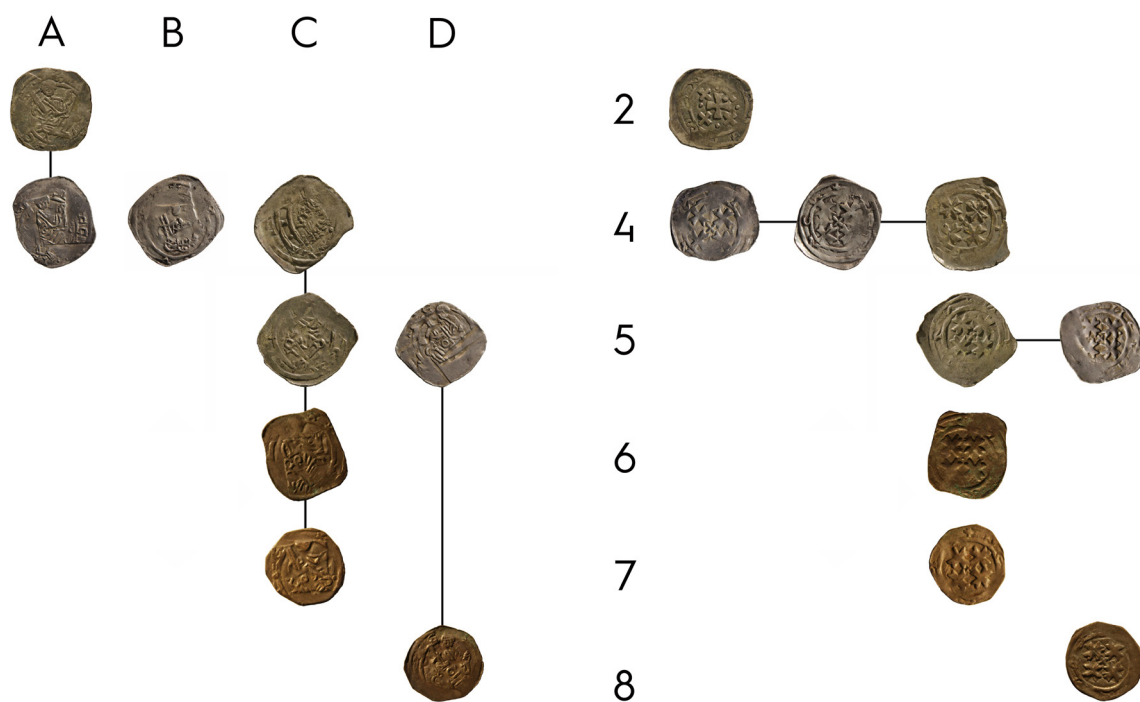


Fig. 11

Type	Inventory number	Obverse die	Reverse die	Reverse legend	Megjegyzés
Cb 13	Private collection II.	A	4	+ ИИТ ... Λ ..S	
Cb 13	MNM: 105A/911-63 (1)	A	4	+ ИИТ ... Λ ..S	
Cb 13	MNM: 97A/901-22	C	4	+ ИИТ ... Λ ..S	doubling
Cb 13	MNM: 105A/911-63 (2)	C	5	+ ИЄVS ... RS	
Cb 13 var.	MNM: 87/896-10	C	6	+ SR ... SDA	unpublished variant
Cb 13 var.	MNM: 124/883-46	C	6	+ SR ... SDA	unpublished variant
Cb 13	MNM: 97A/905-23 (2)	C	7	+ NЄ RS	
Cb 13	Private collection III.	D	5	+ ИЄVS ... RS	
Cb 13	MNM: 97A/905-23 (3)	D	8		

Tab. 2

In conclusion:

- Based on an inscription, Egon Baumgartner published in 1959 that there could have been a mint in Tschatesch,¹⁸ which other researchers published later as a fact,
- in contrast with the data from catalogues, the reverse inscription of the Cp 2 denar is not identical with that of the Cp 1 denar, presumably it is just a meaningless row of letters,
- the two types of Tschatesch coins were only produced with 6 (2+4) dies,
- they can be linked with identical Cb 13-type St. Veit coins provably originating from more dies (the inscriptions of which are also damaged),¹⁹
- while the closest mint to Tschatesch operated only 2 km away at Rann, and there were several others within a radius of 20 km, the mint of St. Veit lay around 170 km away,
- we have no information on whether Duke Bernhard's mints shared dies or not.

Earlier research presumed the existence of a mint based on the reverse inscription of a single coin type, augmented by a further type, on which a meaningless inscription appears similar to the reverses of the Cb 13 coin type from St. Veit. The connections between the dies of the coins are evident. Two possibilities remain:

- 6 pieces of (partly used) dies were taken from the mint of St. Veit to Tschatesch, where they were used for a very short time, or
- the mint of Tschatesch did not exist and Types Cp 1 and Cp 2 were also produced in St. Veit.

In my opinion, no mint operated in Tschatesch in the 13th century, therefore we have to consider the Cp 1 and Cp 2-type denars as issues of the St. Veit mint.

In addition, the obverse image of the Cp 2 type is almost identical with that of Cp 12: a half-length portrait is visible on both, depicting the duke in armour and helmet, with a sword leaning on his right shoulder in the case of Cp 2, and a sceptre or a spear in the same position in the case of Cb 12 (*Fig. 12*).

In summary it is clear to see that during the reign of Duke Bernhard the operation of the mint in St. Veit had not been controlled as strictly as thought before. Types CNA Cp 1 and 2, Cr 23, 25 and 26 and the Cb 13 variant absent from the catalogue have to be listed among the issues of the mint. There are still several uncertainties regarding Friesach-type coins, and as the above example demonstrates, results of the earlier studies have to be reviewed.

18 Baumgartner 1959, 39.

19 In Table 2 I marked the known details of the inscription.



Fig. 12

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