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A Coin Minting Scene on an Attic Ceramic Fragment of c. 480 BC

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facts dating to the establishment of the sanctuary. Although the confused stratigraphy of the site in general continues to hamper the study of the coins, new identifications and extensive additions to the horizontal scatter of the coins increase our knowledge of the usage of the site leading to refinements and, at times, corrections to earlier conclusions.

59

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Ausonius, Francia

A Coin Minting Scene on an Attic Ceramic Fragment of c. 480 BC

In sharp contrast to the millions of coins that have survived from Antiquity, evidence for the actual process of minting them is very scant. Just a handful of dies have been found and most of them are not even official tools but are instruments used by ancient forgers. A new document, an Attic red-figure fragment dated to c. 480 BC, substantially improves our knowledge of the minting process. This fragment from a private collection depicts a crouched man holding a hammer in one hand and a die in the other which rests on an anvil.

On the left side is a man standing to the right, much of whom is lost, who

appears to be holding a purse above the minter's head. An interesting detail is the top of the upper die which seems to be covered with a wooden cap. This can be usefully compared with a slightly earlier bronze reverse die found in the shrine of Poseidon at Sounion which is double-sided. This particular feature made its use only possible by placing a wooden cap on the end receiving the striking blow. The scene on the fragment is clearly an illustration of this method of minting which will be discussed in our paper together with a number of other issues raised by this remarkable document.

60

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The Djurdjevac Hoard (1887)

The third and youngest type of the Croatian Group of late Celtic coins was named after a hoard of c. 400 tetradrachms of relatively poor silver found in 1887 near Djurdjevac (in fact at Semovec) in Croatia. More than a hundred coins (114) were acquired by the Croatian National Museum's Archaeological Department (the actual Zagreb Archaeological Museum) for its numismatic collection. Several authors have dealt with it, but it has never been published. While studying and catalo-