

A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties

Volume III

New Orleans Branch Mint
1840-O to 1853-O NA



By Bill Bugert

With special edits by and consultations with Randy Wiley

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Cover coin is the finest known 1853-O No Arrows and Rays Half Dollar.
Cover artwork by Jane Waldron

To My Fellow Numismatists in the
Liberty Seated Collectors Club.
I wish you all many happy returns.

Foreword

This reference is the third in a series of planned books on the die marriages of Liberty Seated Half Dollars.

In May 2009, I published the first book, *A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume I, San Francisco Branch Mint*. That book lists all (228) known die marriages of the Liberty Seated half dollars of the San Francisco Branch Mint with extensive (almost 1,400) photographs, rarity ratings, and background information.

In May 2010, I published the second book, *A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume II, Carson City Branch Mint*. That book lists all (96) known die marriages of the Liberty Seated half dollars of the Carson City Branch Mint with extensive (over 900) photographs, rarity ratings, and background information.

This reference contains similar information for all the pre-Arrows Liberty Seated half dollar die marriages of the New Orleans Branch Mint. Due to the large number of die marriages and consequent oppressive book size, I decided to halve the New Orleans references; this Register contains only those 217 die marriages of the 1840-O to 1853-O No Arrows. Per many requests, I've also made some slight format changes from previous editions including photographs of every die marriage and enhanced die crack diagrams of selected dies.

In 1993, Randy Wiley and I finished *The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars*. That book listed a finite and pre-determined number of the most easily identifiable die varieties of the series. Many other die varieties were known at the time of publication but were not included for various reasons best discussed elsewhere. This register is different and individually documents Liberty Seated New Orleans half dollar die marriages of obverse, reverse, and collar dies for 1840-O to 1853-O No Arrows and Rays. It is commonly misunderstood by many collectors and dealers that the Liberty Seated denominations have been studied as extensively as the older copper and bust series, where the discovery of new die marriages is rare. This is far from reality. The older copper and bust series have been extensively collected and exhaustively studied for many decades. The Liberty Seated series are far behind in that respect and have a lot of catching up to do. I hope to help that along for the half dollars.

This Register does not include everything everyone wants to know about New Orleans Branch Mint Liberty Seated half dollars. Specifically, little information is included on condition census (generally, I have little interest in that) and there is no pricing information (pricing information has limited value because it is too volatile and including it would quickly outdate this reference). Alternatively, I've included estimated rarity ratings and will leave condition census and valuations for others to study and to report.

It is no coincidence that the name of this Register is similar to ML Beistle's 1929 reference on half dollar die varieties. His work provided me with my initial impetus to collect half dollars by die marriage. I've studied, written, and exhibited information about ML Beistle extensively and have an admiration for his personal and professional accomplishments.

Lastly but importantly, this publication could not have been possible without the cooperative efforts of Randy Wiley. He knows more about Liberty Seated Half Dollars than anyone I know. He and I have been studying the die marriages of these coins for decades and much of the information we derived together is contained herein.

Thanks for taking the time to read this and I hope this Register finds its way into your numismatic library.

Bill Bugert
Gettysburg, PA
June 2011

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Introduction

The purpose of this Register is four-fold:

- **To document all the currently known pre-Arrows Liberty Seated half dollar die marriages produced at the New Orleans Branch Mint**
- **To assist the beginning or advanced Liberty Seated half dollar collector into expanding beyond type, date, or date/mint collecting into die marriage collecting**
- **To aid the casual collector or dealer with proper variety identification and other pertinent information**
- **To establish a standard nomenclature for the Liberty Seated half dollar die marriages.**

At the time of publication, all known pre-Arrows (1840-O to 1853-O NA) Liberty Seated New Orleans Branch Mint half dollar die marriages are documented in this register. I've included the key characteristics of obverse and reverse die marriages so that you could readily identify your half dollar. It is important to note that the mid-1800 minting technology had advanced to a state that, in contrast to the pre-1836 bust style designs, the date (with the exception of 1853-1855 Arrows half dollars), and mintmarks were the only design elements emplaced into the working dies used to mint coins. The other design elements such as dentils, Liberty, stars, denomination, legend, motto, and eagle were all in the hub and, consequently, have no variations when transferred to the working dies. These advancements, however convenient for the minting process, vastly compound the difficulty in identifying characteristics of the individual working dies, and consequently, the die marriages. We must rely on variations in the placements of the date and mintmark and die imperfections for proper variety identification.

For ease of the readers' use, I desired to depict each obverse and reverse die marriage on two pages; this space limitation forced me to be selective on the die characteristics that I specified and photographed. Consequently, I picked the die lines and cracks that I thought were most prevalent for that variety and that could be easily identified using a quality hand held 10-power magnifier and, for date grid measurements, a 10-power hand held optical comparator. Make no mistake about it, a good 10-power stereomicroscope with a reticle is a worthwhile investment when studying and attributing varieties of all denominations at home.

Excluding the Beistle number system which is not used today, the current standard Liberty Seated Half Dollar variety nomenclature is the WB-100 series system. This WB number, for Wiley-Bugert, is derived from the 1993 book, *The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars*. Unfortunately and a point of some confusion, many WB-100 numbers by design include more than one die marriage per number because that book lists major varieties only. For example, the 1840-O WB-104 Large Mintmark half dollar included eight reverse dies. This system is unsatisfactory for the serious half dollar variety collector where a single number represents a single die marriage. This Register starts anew with separate die marriages with WB-X series numbers.

It is very important to note that the die characteristics photographed and/or described herein may or may not be visible on your coin. Die states, coin wear, toning, damage, etc. may affect the visibility of these characteristics and, for those reasons, you may find some diagnostics on your half dollar that are not listed in my descriptions. In many cases, I've included photographs of the latest die state and may include comments of other die states. Coins grading below VG will not show most of the die characteristics I've depicted simply because the key die diagnostics are worn away.

In discussing my plans with others before this reference was published, some collectors and dealers wanted an online version while others wanted a useful physical media. I chose the latter in a workbook style three-ring binder and plastic spiral binding formats for easy desktop reference work and for

portable operations at a coin show. I wanted a user to be able to quickly and easily pluck useful attribution information from this Register. I believe these formats accomplish that. All too often, the hardbound books in my numismatic library are too tightly bound, making page turning awkward and potentially loosening the binding glue or breaking the binding's back. I did not want my readers to suffer this inconvenience especially when I wish my Register to be used often.

It is my desire that this reference creates sufficient interest in collecting by die marriage and someday the "Seated Half Nut Club" (i.e., similar to the "Bust Half Nut Club" where a requirement for membership is owning at least 100 different varieties of the bust half dollar series) is a well-known and popular club.

I know it will be a disappointment to many, but I did not include pricing information, grade availability, or valuations of the die varieties in this Register. In my experience, that type of information is very quickly outdated and useless after a few months if not updated. Collector interest and the market will drive most valuations. The financial complexities of the rare coin market are best left to the economists. As an alternative, I included initial rarity estimates. Almost all the rarity numbers are my estimates based primarily on years of observation and by discussions with other knowledgeable individuals. I have a varying comfort level with many of the dates; it will take years to properly associate a correct rarity number with a specific die marriage.

This book does not include a tutorial on basic coin collecting, grading half dollars, or a lengthy history behind the Liberty Seated series. I assume the reader has a basic understanding of these numismatic topics; besides, many other references cover them in great detail and I will not duplicate the efforts of others here. The following introductory sections contain a lot of background information required to understand the variety attributions of the Liberty Seated Half Dollar series. Please take sufficient time to read and understand them before attempting to use this Register.

At this point, I think it appropriate to provide some advice and encouragement to collectors of die marriages of Liberty Seated Half Dollars. But first, if you are looking to complete a die marriage set in a few short years, look elsewhere. It will literally take many years of aggressive searching to fill all or most of the holes. Even with the benefit of a thick wallet, many die marriages seldom appear on the market and when they do, are quickly snatched up by other serious collectors with similar goals. If you bound your goal to collecting a few years, mints, or types, then the target becomes easier to attain. Otherwise, collecting all the die marriages of all the dates is an expensive lifetime commitment. I know of only three collectors, including myself, with the stamina to attempt this and, I can attest, I've spent over three decades collecting die marriages of these halves. However, it is a wonderful pastime that has kept my interest for many years and provided many hours of enjoyment; it also helps to have a supportive spouse or partner. I wish you the same.

Lastly, as I mentioned in the Foreword, this Register would not have been possible without the efforts of my numismatic friend and colleague, Randy Wiley. He and I have been studying these half dollars together since the early 1980's and we've spent many hours together engrossed in determining die diagnostics, counting reeds, taking notes, and discussing new finds. His astute analytical collecting techniques, motivation, and sheer determination are in a large part responsible for what is being published herein. For that and for his friendship, I thank him.

Abbreviations, Conventions, and Definitions of Terms Used in this Book

It is very important to understand the terms used throughout this text so that my written descriptions convey the proper meaning to you, the reader.

Liberty and LIBERTY. “Liberty” in lower case letters refers to the figure of Miss Liberty on the obverse. “LIBERTY” in upper case letters refers to the words LIBERTY found on the scroll of the obverse design.

Viewing a coin. Often confusing if not clarified, the terms “right” and “left” are used when viewing a coin and referencing features from the viewpoint of the observer’s right and left respectfully. For example, when referring to the eagle’s left claw, the claw referred to is that on the viewer’s left and NOT the eagle’s left claw (which would be on the observer’s right).

Star numbering. Obverse stars are counted clockwise starting with the first star on the lower left to the thirteenth star at the lower right.

Measuring units. I opted for the U.S. standard of inches to measure date height, mintmark size, and diameters of coins.

Photographs. Almost all images are not actual size but scaled to annotate various desired features. I chose to establish a common arbitrary reference point for the mintmark on each die marriage; mintmark positions are depicted relative to the flat topped upper edge of the letter F in HALF. Additionally, some collectors may want to reference date positions to the dentils below the date instead of the date grid technique. Consequently, date position images include the lower dentils.

Date Grid measurements. See the detailed explanation elsewhere in this Register.

Device and device naming. A device is the primary motif on the obverse and reverse die. For the obverse, the primary device is the figure of Liberty while on the reverse, it is the eagle. Supporting devices are also on the obverse and reverse. See the supplemental diagrams and descriptions.

Die Variety versus Die Marriage. These terms, although different, are used almost interchangeably. Die variety refers to a coin struck from dies and, irrespective of die states, all pieces from those dies have the same characteristics. Die marriage refers to a coin struck from a combination of three dies; the obverse, reverse, and collar dies. The differences are subtle but they, as mentioned, are almost used interchangeably. It is important to note that a die crack may help to identify a die variety but is a die state and not a separate die variety or marriage.

EDS, MDS, LDS, VLDS. These acronyms are short for early die state, middle die state, late die state, very late die state and refer to a subjective progress of die deterioration.

K-1 thru K-12. The abbreviation for a clock’s hour hand position (i.e., 1 o’clock thru 12 o’clock) specifically around the outer circumference of a coin.

Lines, Lumps, and Gouges. These terms are utilized when describing the various die diagnostics for each variety. A *line* on the coin is raised and results from a scratch, stray mark, slip of the engraver's tool, and/or polishing of the dies. A *lump* is a raised piece of metal on the coin that resulted from die damage, rust, and/or clashing of the dies. *Gouges* are also raised metal on a coin resulting from oddly shaped heavier damage to the die. These three items are critical to differentiating dies and identifying the key die characteristics.

Reverse olive leaf numbering system. Reverse olive leaves are numbered 1 thru 5 starting with 1 as the lowest olive leaf then numbering clockwise 2 thru the uppermost leaf as #5. Note: leaves 2 and 4 show only partially.



Reverse shield line numbering system. Reverse vertical shield lines are designated alpha-numerically with a letter designating a group of shield lines and a number referencing an individual vertical shield line within that group. For example, B-3 refers to the third (3) vertical line (counting from the left) in the second grouping of shield lines (group B). C-2 refers to the second shield line in the third grouping. Possibilities include A thru F – 1 thru 3.




Enhanced die crack drawings. On selected die marriages, I've included enhanced die crack diagrams. Prominent die cracks are hand drawn on low resolution printed photographs, scanned, and inserted for the readers use. As these die cracks are hand drawn and as my hand is no longer optimally steady, they may not be exact nor will they be all inclusive of the die cracks found on all die states; they are representative of the major die cracks that may be found for that die marriage. These enhanced die crack diagrams are meant to provide a quick visual reference and identification of specific dies.

WB-#. Die marriages are designated with a WB-#; WB is an acronym for Wiley-Bugert. I gave much thought to what numbering system to use in this reference. Randy Wiley and I used a WB-100 series numbering system in our 1993 book, *The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars*. Although seemingly ideal, I couldn't use that same system because many WB-100 series numbers used in our 1993 book include multiple die marriages lumped under a single WB variety number. I wanted to have a compact, easily remembered and referenced system that, for inventory and display purposes, could be readily sorted on a computer. The WB-# format was the next best option and is used herein. To aid the reader and long-time collectors, cross references to our first book's WB-100 series numbers are included for each die marriage.

Cross references. References of a specific die marriage to other publications are provided with each varieties' description. WB is a reference to varieties listed in Randy Wiley and Bill Bugert's *The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars*.


New Orleans Half Dollar Design Types

The pre-Arrows New Orleans Liberty Seated Half Dollars were minted at the New Orleans Branch Mint from 1840-O to 1853-O. The major design types of New Orleans Half Dollars during this period are detailed in the following table.

Major Design Type	Dates of Design Type	Design Characteristics
<p>Small Letters Reverse</p>	<p>1840-1842</p>	 <p>Used for only three years, the initial reverse dies of the Liberty Seated half dollar had small letters that were approximately .064” inches in height (as depicted in the denomination above).</p>
<p>Medium Letters Reverse No Mintmark</p>	<p>1840 only</p>	 <p>Obverse dies of the Capped Bust half dollar design were sent to the New Orleans Branch Mint in 1839 along with companion reverse dies. These reverse dies had no mintmark as it was the practice in 1838 and 1839 to apply the mintmark (O) to the obverse dies sent to New Orleans. One such reverse die with no mintmark was not used in 1839 and was reserved for use in 1840. This reserved die was used in 1840 with a Liberty Seated obverse die creating this major design type. This die had medium letters that were slightly larger (approximately .068”) than the small letters reverse style.</p>
<p>Large Letters Reverse</p>	<p>1842-1861</p>	 <p>Noticeably large than the two preceding styles, the reverse dies for the Liberty Seated half dollar in later years had large letters that were approximately .080” inches in height (as depicted in the denomination above).</p>

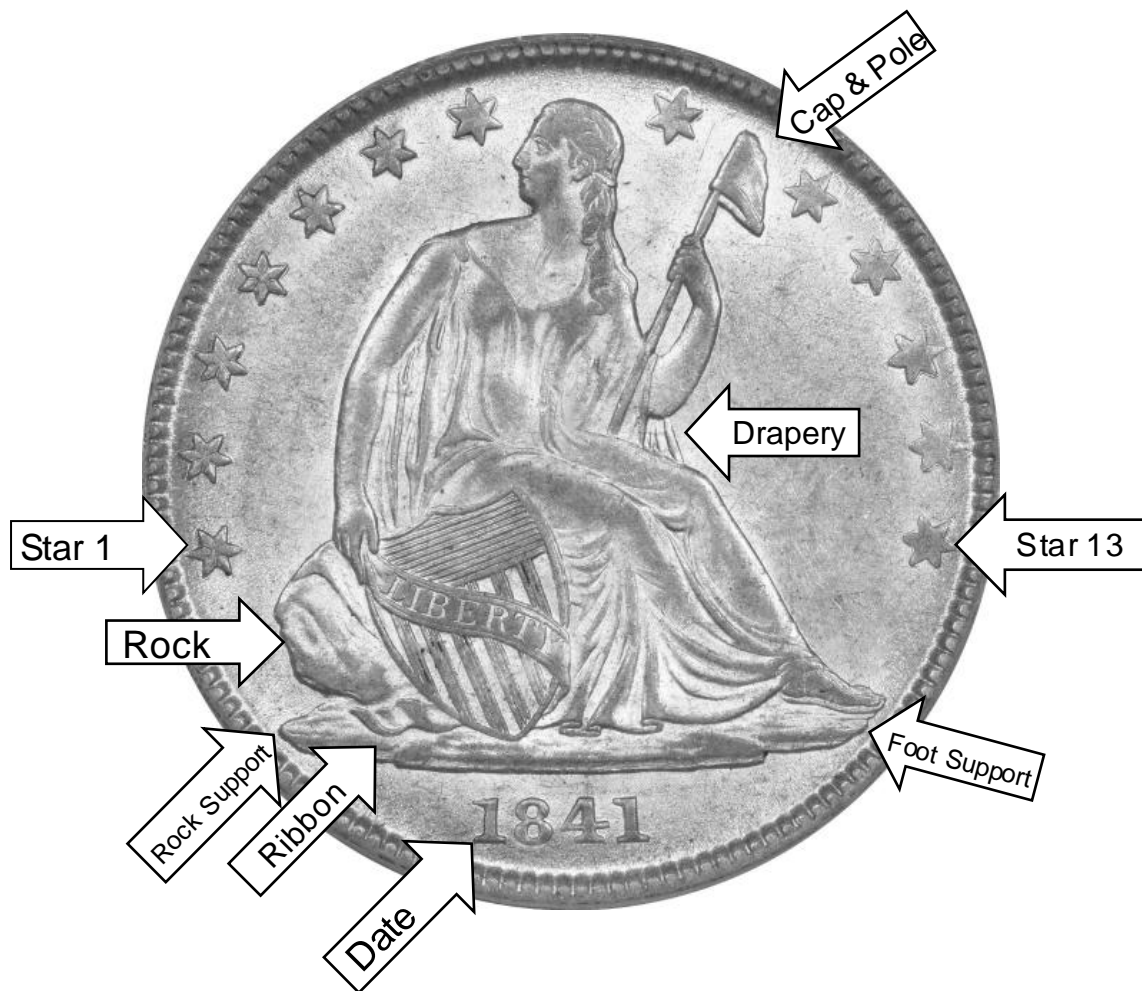
Pre-Arrows New Orleans Date Logotype Sizes

There are significant variations in the size (height) of the date logotype punch used on the working dies for Liberty Seated half dollars throughout the series. However, 1842 and 1846 are the only dates which have two noticeably different sizes within the same year. In the collecting community there is considerable disparity regarding the identification/labeling of these differences. There is significant variation in date logotype size in subsequent years (e.g. 1858 is much larger than 1859), but there are no instances in years subsequent to 1846 where two different date logotype sizes exist for the same year. The following table lists and depicts typical date sizes for the pre-Arrows New Orleans Liberty Seated Half Dollars (1840-O to 1853-O).

Small	Medium	Large
.056 - .064" high	.076 - .086" high	.089 - .096" high
1840-O to 1842-O	1842-O to 1846-O	1846-O to 1853-O
		

Note: Two date sizes exist in the years 1842-O and 1846-O.

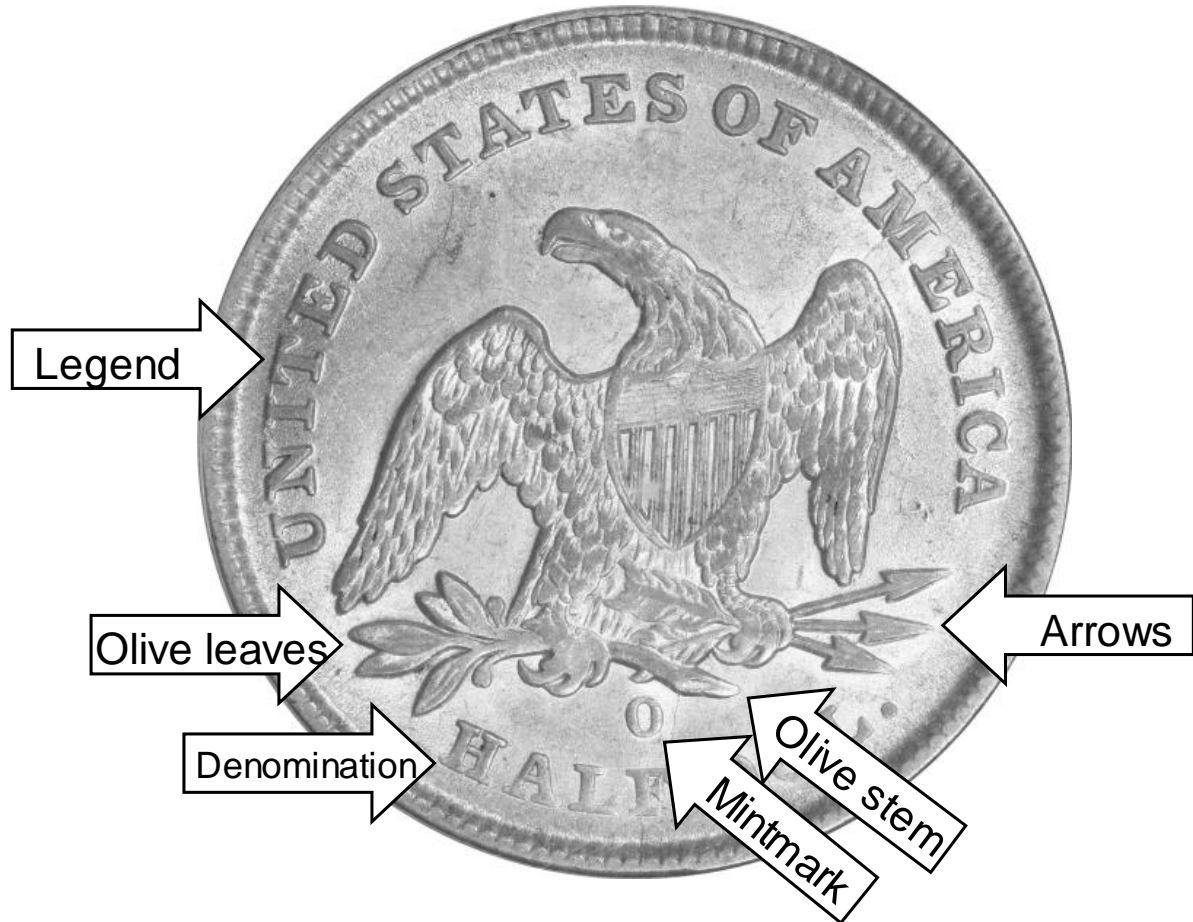
Naming Conventions: Obverse



The central obverse design includes the figure of the Goddess Liberty seated on a rock looking over her right (observer's left) shoulder. Liberty is wearing a Greek chiton, or loose fitting gown, with a clasp at her shoulder. Her neck, upper chest, and arms are exposed. Liberty's hand supports the Shield of the United States, a sign of national preparedness, which is wrapped in a

scroll inscribed with the word LIBERTY; her other hand grasps a pole surmounted by a pileus, a liberty cap emblematic of freedom. Thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original states, are spaced around the outer design from K-8 to K-4. As with all early silver coinage, the outermost design has equally spaced design elements called dentils.

Naming Conventions: Reverse



The central reverse design portrays an eagle with wings displayed bearing the Shield of the United States on its chest. The eagle is clutching an olive branch, which symbolizes peace, in its right (observer's left) talon and three arrows, symbolizing preparedness for war,

in its left (observer's right) talon. The denomination abbreviated HALF DOL. is below the eagle and the legend UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is above the eagle. Like the obverse, the outermost design has equally spaced design elements called dentils.

Date Grid Measurements

Unlike bust coinage, all Liberty Seated Half Dollars were struck from dies with most of the designs (e.g., Liberty and stars) impressed initially from a hub. Consequently, differentiating dies is difficult at best and the die marriage collector must rely on non-hubbed die diagnostics. For the obverse die, these diagnostics include die lines and cracks, die gouges, die maintenance remnants, and most importantly, date placement. Dates were emplaced into the working die with multi-figure and sometimes single digit logotypes and, therefore, obverse dies may have noticeable die placement variations. Mastering a technique to define a date placement will facilitate a quick method of identifying possible die varieties for a given date placement, especially when no other diagnostics are evident. Here is such a method: the date grid measurement (e.g., M3.5, .030”).

The date grid is based on the position of the date's 1 and consists of two components: the position of the right vertical edge of the 1 with relation to Liberty's shield lines and, secondly, the distance between the top of the 1 and the base of the rock. A stereomicroscope with a linear scale on a reticule or an optical comparator is ideal for viewing and measuring the date placement. The photograph below symbolically depicts a microscope's reticle (vertical line) aligned in the correct measuring position. The shield lines are assigned an alphanumeric system whereby, the three center sets of shield lines are L (left), M, (middle), and R (right) and the individual shield lines are 1, 2, 3 (4, 5 are virtual shield lines equidistant in the large space between the shield line sets). The date placement is the real or virtual shield line (including a decimal increment between shield lines) where the reticle (aligned adjacent to the right edge of the 1) intersects the bottom inside shield edge. Increments of .5 signify an interpolation between two lines or virtual lines such that M2.5 is the seam between vertical stripes 2 and 3 while M3.5 is the right edge of vertical stripe 3, as below. Furthermore, the distance in inches between the top of the 1 and the bottom edge of the rock is the second component of the date grid. The example below is of an 1840 half dollar with a date grid of M3.5, .030”.



Be aware that date grid is not and is not meant to be an absolute identifier for a specific obverse die. It is merely a tool for identifying a numeric date position for possible obverse die identification. In my experience, two experienced numismatists with the same equipment on the same coin may come up with two slightly different date grids. Measuring a date grid is not absolute and I, therefore, do not use it to positively identify a specific obverse die. Many half dollars of different dies have the same date grid and, additionally, die states affect a date grid's measurement.

As a general rule, severe die wear or die polishing will cause the date distance measurement to be greater and the date grid measurement to be further to the left (e.g., an early die state coin with a date grid measurement of M3.5, .030" may measure M3, .032" in a later die state).

Identifying known die marriages by the date grid allows comparison of an unknown die variety's date placement, thereby narrowing down an unidentified obverse die to a limited number of known varieties. In my experience, many date placements are similar for a given date but different enough to allow minute differentiation. The list below represents the date grid measurements for hypothetical half dollars of a certain date:

Obverse	Date grid
1	M3 , .008"
2	M3 , .025"
3	M3.5, .028"
4	M4 , .022"
5	M4.5, .027"

When encountering an unidentified half dollar, measure the date grid and compare it to the list of known obverse dies for the same date. You should be able to identify it to one or two of the obverse dies. In my photo example, the obverse die is closest to obverse 3. Further study of other die diagnostics may confirm the identification.

Die states affect date grid measurements. Late die states with heavily polished or worn dies will have different measurements than the same die of an earlier die state. For example, the distance between the top of the 1 and the rock may be greater on the polished die than the non-polished die. Consider this effect when comparing date grid measurements.

The date grid is a useful measurement to aid in identifying Liberty Seated half dollar obverse dies. Collectors of other Liberty Seated denominations utilize date placements in relation to dentils but I believe this method is more accurate and useful for half dollars.

Edge Reeding and Collars

Often overlooked, the edge of a coin contains reeds. Reeds were implanted with a collar, the coin's third die, and were meant to deter nefarious efforts to clandestinely remove silver from the edges of coins for profit. All non-error Liberty Seated Half Dollars have reeds.

Reeded collars were heavy steel plates with a bore the size of the minted coin. A blank planchet was placed in the bore and reeds were raised on the edge of the coin at the same time the coin's designs were raised by the obverse and reverse dies.

Reeding on a coin was not standardized. Collars were obtained by the Branch Mints through various efforts including in-house manufacturing, local procurement, and from the Philadelphia Mint and these practices resulted in variances in numbers and widths of reeds on half dollar edges.

Reed counts are useful information in counterfeit detection, authentication, and determining die emission sequences.

The following table itemizes reed counts for pre-Arrows New Orleans Liberty Seated half dollars.

Edge Reed Count									
<i>Date</i>	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149
1840-O				√	√	√			
1841-O					√	√			
1842-O			√	√	√	√			
1843-O					√	√			
1844-O						√	√	√	√
1845-O							√	√	
1846-O					√	√	√	√	
1847-O				√	√		√		
1848-O							√		
1849-O	√						√	√	
1850-O	√							√	
1851-O	√								
1852-O			√						
1853-O NA*									

* = The number of reeds on the 1853-O No Arrows and Rays half dollar is unknown. Unfortunately, the plate coin for this Register was encapsulated by PCGS and the edge reeding was not accessible for study. Removing the coin from the holder to count the reeds can be expensive as well as risky due to the subjectivity of the current grading standards. The reed count is likely 141 or 143 reeds.

Counting Reeds

Periodically I've been asked that if determining a reed count is so important, then how do you easily count reeds? Randy Wiley and I have successfully been using a simple technique for years; with it, I have counted reeds on well over 1,500 Liberty Seated Half dollars and many other smaller denominations.

Counting reeds is actually quick simple if you understand the technique and have a few simple tools. Simply remove the reflector from an inexpensive flashlight, place the coin into the reflector under your stereo microscope, and slowly rotate the reflector with the coin while viewing the in-focus edge (i.e., reeds) through the microscope. Start at an obvious flaw (all

coins have them) and count (out loud is best so that you can ignore distractions) the reeds using the reticule of your scope to keep track of your position; stop for breathers at easily referenced places (e.g., nicks, lint, cracks in the collar, etc.). Continue until you get to the starting reed. You may have to initially adjust the coin in the reflector to keep it in focus for the entire counting session. With practice, you can easily and accurately count the reeds on a coin in about 2-3 minutes. Be careful with the reflector surfaces; they scratch easily and you may end up replacing it more often than you like. One more thing, you can also photograph the edge of the coin with this technique.





Emission Sequence

The die marriages of all dates are listed in ascending WB-X order per an estimated die emission sequence order; the first number is the first minted die marriage to the highest number being the last (usually the transitional die with the preceding or subsequent years). Factors considered to estimate this die emission sequence include die wear, die abrasions, die defects, collar groupings, and use of mintmark sizes.

Pre-Arrows New Orleans Branch Mintmark Sizes

The New Orleans Branch Mint had working dies with four mintmark sizes: very small, small, medium, and large. Mintmarks were added to the working dies at Philadelphia most likely just before shipment to the Branch Mints; in this situation, all dies for one specific shipment were probably lined up and the mintmark emplaced by the same punch one after the other. A single punch with the letter “O” was hammered by hand into the working die(s) to form the mint mark we see today; variances in the exact placement of the letter exists from die to die and account for the differences we enjoy today. In some instances, multiple blows from a hammer were necessary to emplace the mintmark with a proper depth and appearance. If the alignment of the punch varied between blows, repunched mintmarks consequently appeared.

The different mintmark sizes and styles are depicted below.

<i>Mintmark Size</i>	Very Small	Small	Medium	Large
<i>Height of mintmark</i>	.038 - .039”	.043 - .045”	.047 - .052”	.053 - .057”
<i>Sample photo</i>				
1840-O	√	√		√
1841-O			√*	√
1842-O				√
1843-O				√
1844-O			√*	√
1845-O			√*	√
1846-O				√
1847-O				√
1848-O				√
1849-O				√
1850-O				√
1851-O				√
1852-O				√
1853-O NA				√

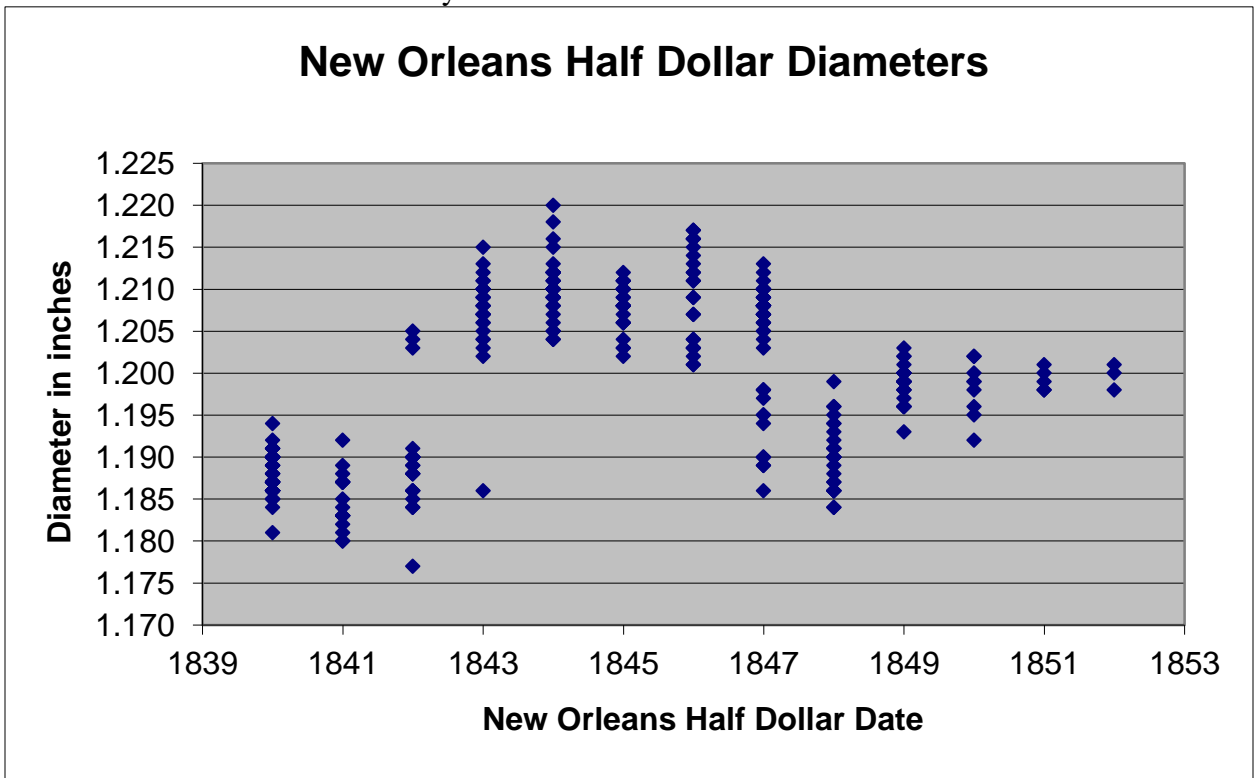
* = Although about the same height, the 1841-O has an oblong shaped mintmark with a narrow interior space (as shown in the photo above) while the 1844-O and 1845-O dates have a round shaped O.

New Orleans Half Dollar Diameters

The standard size of a half dollar diameter has been since 1839, and still is, 1.205 inches. I've measured the diameter of about 2,000 half dollars and few have that exact diameter. Since the diameter of a coin is dictated by the diameter of the opening in the collar and collars were procured through various methods (local, procured from the Philadelphia Mint, made in-house), there is no wonder that slight variations in half dollar sizes can be found.

Liberty Seated Half Dollars struck at the New Orleans Branch Mint. As you can see, values are all over the graph, above and below the standard with very few half dollars of the standard diameter. Almost all pre-1843 half dollar have a smaller than standard diameter, almost all 1843 to 1846 halves are at or above the standard, 1847 has mixed diameters, and later years all have below standard diameters. The largest diameter was in 1844 while the smallest was in 1842.

The following graphic presents summary information for the diameters of nearly 400



Note: The diameter of the 1853-O No Arrows and Rays half dollar is unknown and not included in the graph above; I have not measured one of these rarities and since two of the three known coins are encapsulated, the chance of studying the third is remote. It is likely the same collar was used as in 1852-O.

Rarity Ratings

Included with the description of each die marriage is an estimated rarity rating. These ratings are based on the Sheldon Rarity Scale as depicted in the following table. All rarity estimates are my own and are based on my observations and, in some instances, educated guesses. Few varieties are rated R-6 or above, few are rated R-2, and none are R-1. I will be the first to admit that it will literally take years to establish more accurate rarity ratings for each variety but I believe most will range as listed in the R-5 to R-3 range.

The *rarity rating* I assigned to each die marriage is a single number which *includes coins of all grades*. In my experience, listing by-grade rarity values can lead to

misrepresenting the rarity of a die marriage by misquoting grade rarities rather than overall rarities. Naturally, some grades are rarer than others, specifically uncirculated coins, but I will leave that study and accompanying condition census listings to others.

Care must be exercised when trying to relate a die marriage's worth to rarity. There is no direct correlation between value and rarity and trying to correlate the two would produce misleading results. Some die marriages are rare but not noteworthy enough to gain the prominence enjoyed by some more popular rarities. Rarity is only one factor in determining market value.

Rarity Rating	Estimated number of known pieces
R-8	1 - 3
R-7	4 - 12
R-6	13 - 30
R-5	31 - 75
R-4	76 - 200
R-3	201 - 500
R-2	501 - 1,250
R-1	1,251 or more

If you sum the upper estimates of the known pieces for all the die marriages listed in this Register, the total population of pre-Arrows New Orleans Liberty Seated half dollars is approximately 74,000. This number equates to less than ½ of 1% of the original mintage which is within the generally acceptable attrition estimates.

Miscellaneous Information

Extended vertical shield lines. Many dates feature this characteristic and these lines are routinely seen (some quite spectacular) cutting across the horizontal stripes in the shield and (to a lesser extent) into the tail feathers below the shield. Sometimes the bottom few horizontal stripes cut across the left edge of the shield. These extended shield lines were most likely created as the mint employee would overextend a stroke with a graver (a hand held engraving tool) and cut into an adjacent design element represented as a positive image on the die (recessed on a corresponding coin). An example of extended shield lines is shown in the accompanying photograph.



Extended Shield Lines

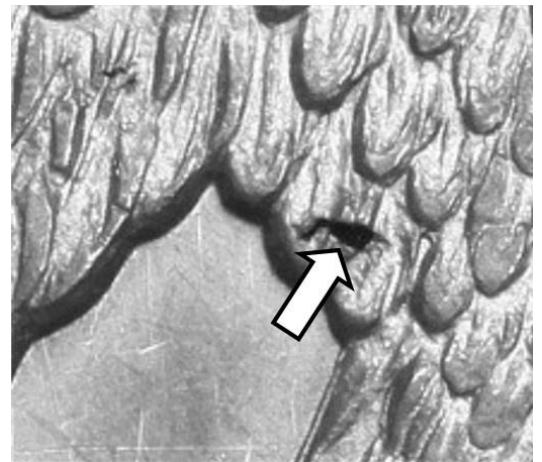
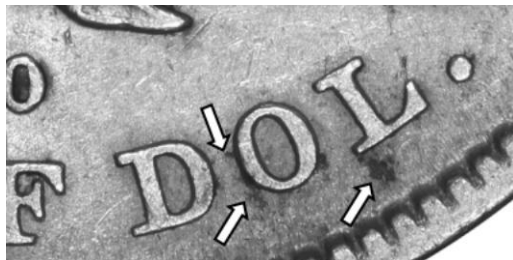
Since extended shield lines are uniquely different for individual dies, these are a useful tool to confirm that two half dollars are or are not from the same reverse die.

Reengraved foot support. Certain obverse dies have a very noticeable, heavily reengraved foot support. It appears this re-engraving was done to strengthen the appearance of the rock below Liberty's sandal. All patterns of this re-engraving appear to differ slightly, supporting a theory the engraving was done by hand. This characteristic appeared for the pre-Arrows halves only on the 1842-O medium date and 1844-O.



Re-engraved Foot Support

Bits of iron in planchets. Numerous references in original 1840's National Archives letters (for example, see 1840-O) are made to problems with iron in the planchets. Cited as the reason for dies "fracturing" (i.e., cracking), coins with embedded bits of iron can be found in many of the early dates and are readily identified by black (rusty) spots on the coin. Shown are examples of embedded bits of iron. While not necessarily rare, they are an interesting item of coining history. Check your coins; you mostly likely have them too.

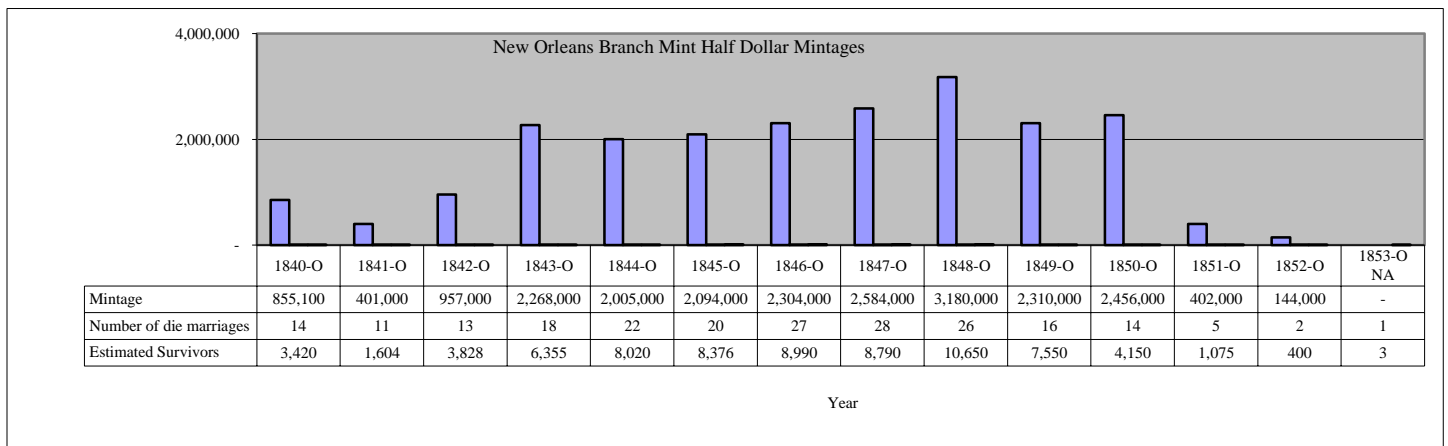


Brief history of the New Orleans Branch Mint. The New Orleans, Louisiana Branch Mint was authorized by an Act of the U.S. Congress on March 3, 1835 to accommodate the influx of the metal from ore mines recently opened in the southern states.

The cornerstone for the New Orleans Branch Mint building was laid in September 1835 on prominent land donated to the United States government by the city of New Orleans. Operations commenced at this facility on March 8, 1838 and the first coinage consisted of dimes. Coinage continued with various interruptions until 1909 when it was used for other purposes.

The Federal Government deeded the building to the state of Louisiana in 1966 upon which it was renovated and now serves as the Louisiana State Museum.

Major U.S. Government actions affecting early New Orleans Coinage¹. To further understand New Orleans half dollar coinage, a macro examination of the variations in half dollar mintages is necessary. The figure below depicts the mintages, number of die marriages found for the New Orleans pre-arrows half dollars from 1840 – 1853, and my estimate of the number of survivors for each date. As my estimates are significantly higher than a well-known grading and certification service, it is worthwhile to discuss how I came to derive these estimates. I used a bottoms-up approach where I estimated the Sheldon rarity of all the die marriages for each date and then summed the upper limit of each rarity to produce the number of estimated survivors. I then adjusted a few numbers down to fit their mintages. I believe these estimates will prove realistic.



As shown above, the half dollar mintages form a bell shaped curve with low mintages in the beginning and low mintages at the end. The middle years’ mintages were fairly constant and high (above 2 million pieces per year). Various developments influenced these mintage figures.

Start-up problems. The New Orleans Branch Mint had many problems from the start that affected half dollar coinage. Among these were incompetent political appointees serving in the Branch Mint’s senior positions, coining press problems, issues with collars, lack of qualified staff to fill personnel openings, early failure of the dies, die hardening inexperience, closure of operations for yellow fever outbreaks, scandals of Mint officials, building structural deficiencies, and bullion accounting issues. Through all this, silver bullion, mostly from the deposits of Mexican dollars and foreign bullion, was used to mint the Liberty Seated coinage.

¹ For details of this and other monetary history, see Carothers, Neil. *Fractional Money*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1930.

Disappearance of silver coinage. During most of the 1840's and for the first time in the nation's history, the U.S. had a fairly ample supply of circulating coinage. This situation abruptly changed with the discovery of gold in California in 1848. Gold poured into the nation's economy thereby upsetting the gold to silver market ratio. By 1851, the rising value of silver rose to a point where a silver coin's silver content was worth more than the face value (e.g., two silver half dollars were worth \$1.03½ in gold). Consequently, large numbers of U.S. silver coins, mainly quarters and half dollars, were pulled from circulation, hoarded, melted, and/or exported for profit. Coinage with the exception of heavily worn U.S. and Mexican coins, 3-cent pieces, and gold dollars essentially did not circulate. With Congress' inactivity to resolve the worsening chaotic retail trade conditions, the U.S. Mints, which were operating at a net loss in producing silver coins, reduced their silver coinage output because it cost more than their face value to produce and, if released, they quickly disappeared from commerce. Consequently, for a few years beginning in 1851, the half dollar mintage was miniscule as reflected in the mintage graph.

Mint Act of 1853. After almost two years of Congressional debate and delay, the President signed into law the Mint Act on February 21, 1853, effective with amendments on April 1, 1853. Among other provisions, the planchet weights of silver half dimes through half dollars were reduced by almost 7 percent thereby making two half dollars' worth about 97¢. Although in hindsight this reduction percentage was far too small (only a 3 percent margin), the resulting coinage output especially of quarters and half dollars was enough to flood commerce with silver coinage in a little more than six months. The circulating coinage shortfall was temporarily eased for about eight years.

How To Attribute Your Liberty Seated Half Dollar

Armed with the introductory and the die marriage information contained in this Register, most New Orleans Branch Mint Liberty Seated Halves can be readily attributed to a correct variety nomenclature and WB- number. Date and mintmark close up images are displayed at top of each die marriage page because they are position dependent. Additional die diagnostic information and images are contained for the obverse and reverse dies.

At a coin show, you will most likely be able to scrutinize a prospective purchase to determine a correct die marriage. Additionally, with advances in the internet, high speed data downloads, and digital imaging technology, many auction house depict excellent quality images on their website for upcoming auctions.

With a half dollar of an unknown variety in hand, proceed through the following steps.

- Obtain or estimate the date grid location. Compare this measurement to the date grid table contained for the coin's date. This measurement will provide a few obverse die possibilities and you can then check the mintmark position.
- Match the mintmark position of your coin to the table contained for each date.
- Finally, refer your possibilities to each variety description and check the die diagnostics for your coin against those listed for each die marriage.

With a close-up image of half dollar of an unknown variety on the computer screen (e.g., from an auction website), proceed through the following steps.

- Estimate the date position of the 1 by using a straight edge such as a piece of page. Compare this measurement to the date grid table contained for the coin's date. This measurement will provide a few obverse die possibilities and you can then check the mintmark position.
- Match the mintmark position of your coin to the table contained for each date.
- Finally, refer your possibilities to each variety description and check the die diagnostics for your coin against those listed for each die marriage.

Both techniques work well. I have personally tested attribution techniques either with a coin in hand or over the internet with the digital archives of a few well known auctions houses. In over 90 per cent of the coins or images checked, I was able to attribute the variety for a high grade (VF+) Liberty Seated Half Dollar. I hope you have similar successes.

**The New Orleans Branch Mint
Liberty Seated Half Dollar
Die Marriages
1840-O to 1853-O NA**

1840-O

If early New Orleans half dollars are popular with half dollar collectors, then 1840-O is likely the most popular New Orleans date. For some obvious reasons, this date is attractive. John McCloskey's groundbreaking 1980 article on 1840-O half dollar die varieties² sparked early interest, this is the first year of New Orleans Liberty Seated Half Dollars, there are three mintmark sizes, and a no mintmark bust style reverse - all easily distinguishable with an unaided eye, most reverse dies have interesting die cracks in later die states, this year has examples of reengraved dentils, there are more than a few scarce and/or rare die marriages, and the romance of the "South" attracts attention. In any case, this date is one of the most interesting and challenging to collect in the entire Liberty Seated half dollar series. An 1840-O half dollar in almost any condition attracts collector attention.

Fourteen die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
855,100	Requested	-			3 (144, 145, 146)
	Shipped	-	7	10	
	Known	14	6	11 ³	

For additional background information on the New Orleans Branch Mint in 1840, see Randy Wiley's excellent article "The New Orleans Branch Mint in 1840" as published in the *Gobrecht Journal*, Volume 33, Number 99, July 2007.

New Orleans contemporary correspondence. With the operations of the new branch mint at New Orleans, some interesting letters of correspondence between the branch mint and Philadelphia Mint can be found in the National Archives. These letters provide knowledge of the operations of this new branch mint. A few extracts from these are provided here for your information:

- February 6, 1840 letter from Philos B. Tyler, New Orleans Branch Mint Coiner, to R. M. Patterson, Director of the Mint. *"I have received from our superintendent two pair of half dollar dies and some of smaller denominations. I have to request that you make some allowance for my want of experience in tempering the dies, and would remind you of this viability to crack in hardening...."* This letter is important as it clearly states that some **half dollar dies cracked** before they were used to strike coins. Therefore, some dies will not be found uncracked. This is consistent with the results Randy Wiley and I have found while searching for examples of this date. We have not seen some die marriages such as WB-4, WB-9, or WB-13 in an uncracked die state and they may not exist as such.
- March 4, 1840 letter from R. M. Patterson to Philos B. Tyler (in answer to a question from Tyler in the letter above) on an **estimate of the number of coins struck per pair of dies**. *"...I have given instructions to have you furnished with a full supply of dies. It is impossible to answer with any precision, what is the number of coins that may be struck with our pairs of dies. Perhaps 200,000 may be given as a fair medium. We have struck 400,000 half dimes...."* Furthermore, in a March 21, 1840 letter from R. M. Patterson to Secretary of the Treasury Levi Woodbury, Patterson quotes operations at the New Orleans Branch Mint saying: *"...With the half dollar dies, I have coined about 90,000 pieces and have but one pair now which I fear will not stand to coin as many more...."*

² John McCloskey. "1840-O Half Dollars," *Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume I*, 1980: p. 283.

³ Includes one reverse die held over from 1839; i.e., a bust style die without a mintmark.

- April 18, 1840 letter from Philos B. Tyler to R. M. Patterson on **iron in the silver**. "... *The first pair of half dollars stamped about 50,000 pieces and gave away either from bad hardening or from using bad silver, the later of which I am inclined to think was the cause, from the fact of their both breaking about the same time, and presenting the same peculiar fractures, as also from the fact of finding several coins in the box containing iron. Two pair of half dimes & 1 of dimes were broken in the same way before I discovered that the silver contained iron. When on further examination, I found I had several draughts of ingots containing large pieces of iron or steel. All of which was duly reported to the Supt and returned for refining. The second pair of 1/2 dollar dies struck about 150,000 pieces when the tail [reverse] die gradually gave out. The second head [obverse] and third tail are now in the press in good order, the head having struck upwards of 200,000 pieces, from the appearance of the tail, I think it will not last much longer than this month out...*"

Bits of iron in planchets. Numerous references in original 1840's National Archives letters (as above) are made to problems with iron in the planchets. Cited as the reason for dies "fracturing" (i.e., cracking), coins with embedded bits of iron can be found in 1840-O half dollars and are readily identified by black (rusty) spots on the coin. Shown below are examples of embedded bits of iron. While not necessarily rare, they are an interesting item of coining history. Check your coins; you mostly likely have them too.









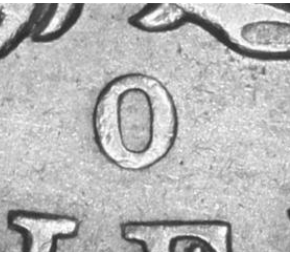




Iron bits in the planchet of an 1840-O WB-10 half dollar

1840-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
M2 , .022"	WB-10
M2.5, .034"	WB-11
M3 , .036"	WB-1
M3.5, .020"	WB-14
M3.5, .021"	WB-12
M3.5, .022"	WB-13
M3.5, .029"	WB-4
M3.5, .030"	WB-2
M3.5, .030"	WB-3
M3.5, .030"	WB-7
M3.5, .032"	WB-5
M3.5, .032"	WB-6
M3.5, .032"	WB-9
M4 , .034"	WB-8

1840-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions

No Mintmark	 Reverse C, WB-4, 12		
Very small O	 Reverse E, WB-7		
Small O	 Reverse F, WB-10		
Large O	 Reverse A, WB-1, 2	 Reverse B, WB-3	 Reverse D, WB-5
	 Reverse G, WB-11	 Reverse H, WB-6, 8	 Reverse I, WB-9
	 Reverse J, WB-13	 Reverse K, WB-14	

1840-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Die cracks around the legend, denomination, and thru the arrow heads	Heavy radial die cracks; prominently thru D(OL)	Bust style reverse Medium letters Large eagle	Weak radial die cracks Mintmark leans left	Very small O mintmark	Small O mintmark
		A	B	C	D	E	F
		Large O		No O	Large O	Very small O	Small O
Weak date; die crack around the entire circumference	1	WB-1					
Repunched 8	2	WB-2	WB-3	WB-4	WB-5		
Small lump under ribbon end	3					WB-7	
High date, horizontal die lines by hand	4						WB-10

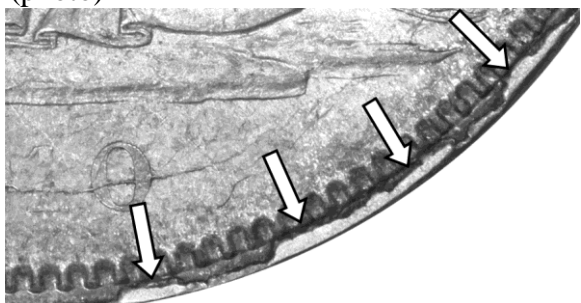
1840-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Bust style reverse Medium letters Large eagle	Weak eagle's head and neck feathers	Diagonal die lines thru HA(LF) and D(OL)	"H-like" die crack	Die crack thru mintmark	Die crack thru (DO)L and arrow shafts
		C	G	H	I	J	K
		No O	Large O				
Repunched 8	2			WB-6			
Small lump under ribbon end	3			WB-8	WB-9		
Low date	5		WB-11				
Repunched 1	6	WB-12				WB-13	WB-14

1840-O WB-1, Large O

Obverse 1



- Low date with weak digits notably the 4 (photo)



- High grade coins only: rims cuds from K4 to K-6 (photo)
- LDS: die crack around the entire circumference of the die thru the stars, date (photo above) and both ends of the rock support. This die crack first appears thru the date.
- LDS: clash in the drapery below Liberty's elbow.

Reverse A



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- LDS: extensively cracked die nearly thru all the letters of the legend and denomination but especially in and around the arrowheads (photo). From studying multiple examples of this die marriage, these die cracks seem to start in the letters DOL.
- EDS will have few, if any, die cracks.

This is the first and only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Based on Randy Wiley National Archives research⁴, 50,000 coins were struck with WB-1 dies and both the obverse and reverse dies broke "...about the same time and presenting the same peculiar fractures..."⁵ clearly describing the WB-1 die pair, the only 1840-O die pair so broken.

See collar photo and comments on the next page.

Date grid: M3, .036"	145, 145/146 reeds with a collar break? (see next page)	Typical diameter = 1.193"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS62		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

⁴ Randy Wiley. "The New Orleans Branch Mint in 1840," *Gobrecht Journal*, Volume 33, Number 99, July 2007.

⁵ United States National Archives, letter, Philos B. Tyler to R.M. Patterson, April 18, 1840.

**1840-O
WB-1, Large O**



LDS only: The collar used for this die marriage has either a fracture or a visible collar joint. There is an edge mark between the (UNI)TE(D) (visible only on near mint state coins) and an “extra” reed between in the same location (photo). This “extra” reed appears in another location around the circumference (between DO(L), possibly indicating these dies were used on separate occasions to strike half dollars. Others positions possibly exist.

**1840-O
WB-1, Large O**



Obverse 1 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



Reverse A (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1840-O WB-2, Large O

Obverse 2

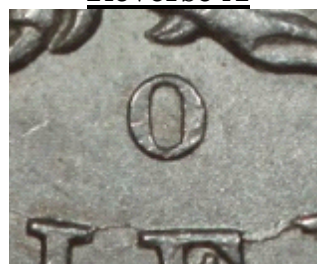


- Date centered with the 8 showing repunching to the northeast (photo)



- Die polish lines arching thru Liberty's lower skirt (photo)
- This die was very rusty; Liberty shows raised rust lumps throughout.

Reverse A



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Extensively cracked die notably around the legend and denomination but especially in and around DOL and the arrowheads (photo). Since this die cracked on WB-1 (the first use of this reverse die), all examples of this die marriage will have the cracks as shown above.

This is the first use of this obverse die and the second and final use of this reverse die.

This die marriage is the rarest of the 1840-Os. At the time of this writing and after decades of searching, I am aware of only four examples of this die marriage. I suspect a few others exist that will be found when its rarity becomes known; hence, the R-6 rarity rating.

Date grid: M3.5, .030"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.197"	Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

**1840-O
WB-2, Large O**



Obverse 2



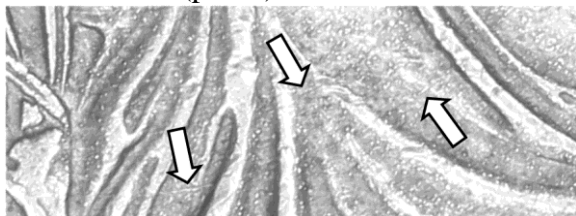
Reverse A (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1840-O WB-3, Large O

Obverse 2



- Date centered with the 8 showing repunching to the northeast (photo)



- Die polish lines arching thru Liberty's lower skirt (photo)
- This die was very rusty; Liberty shows raised rust lumps throughout.

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Spoke-like radial die cracks from the rim at K-2, K-5, K-7 and K-9, prominently at K-5 bisecting the D(OL) thru the stem, feathers, and eagle (photo)

This is the second use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3.5, .030"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.187"	Rarity - 5
Draperies die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: Bugert - XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104, McCloskey-7		Version 4.68	

**1840-O
WB-3, Large O**



Obverse 2



Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

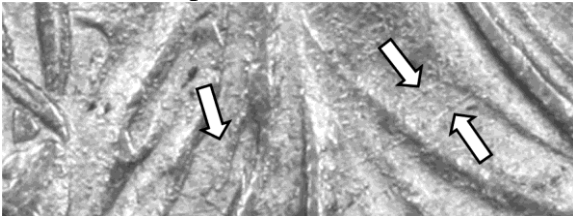
1840-O

WB-4, No Mintmark, Medium Letters, Large Eagle

Obverse 2



- Date centered with the 8 showing repunching to the northeast (photo)



- Die polish lines arching thru Liberty's lower skirt (photo)
- This die was very rusty; Liberty shows raised rust lumps throughout.
- Long weak die clash line outside natural drapery from Liberty's right arm to knee

Reverse C



- No mintmark (photo)
- Bust style reverse. Long thought to be a product of the Philadelphia mint, this die marriage was actually minted at New Orleans using a carried over bust reverse die from 1839 where the mintmark was on the obverse of the coin.
- Among the differences on this die, the legend and denomination are larger (termed medium letters), the eagle and reverse shield are larger, the eagle's claws are open, the olive leaves and arrowheads are more spread than the "seated style." See the enlarged photo on the following page and compare to the seated style.
- For additional information on this reverse die and the discovery that it is of New Orleans origin, see "The 1840-O No Mintmark Bust Reverse Half Dollar," Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume III, 1991, p. 314.

This is the third use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

I have not seen this die marriage with an uncracked reverse die. An uncracked XF coin was supposedly seen at the Overland Park/Kansas City coin show in the late 1980's but I have not been able to verify the existence of this coin without die cracks.

While not rare, this die marriage is extremely popular with collectors for its "no mintmark" bust style reverse die.

For further discussion of the key differences (some not discussed herein) between the reverse types, see Randy Wiley's excellent article in Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume I, pages 263-268.

Date grid: M3.5, .029"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.189"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS AU50+		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1840-O

WB-4, No Mintmark, Medium Letters, Large Eagle



Obverse 2



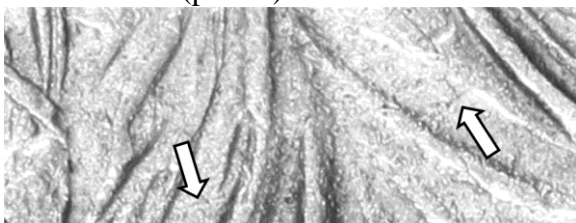
Reverse C (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1840-O WB-5, Large O

Obverse 2

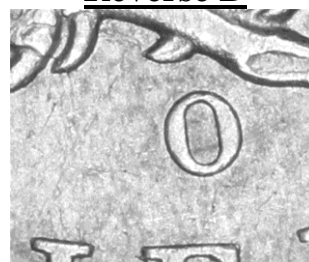


- Date centered with the 8 showing repunching to the northeast (photo)

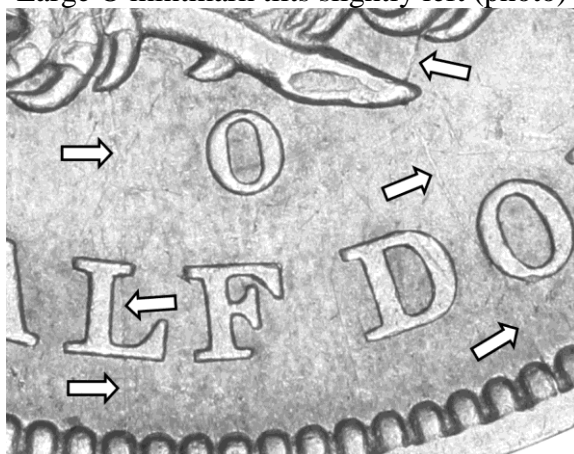


- Die polish lines arching thru Liberty's lower skirt weak but faintly visible on high grade coins (photo)
- This die was very rusty; Liberty shows raised rust lumps throughout.
- LDS: dentils are noticeably weaker.

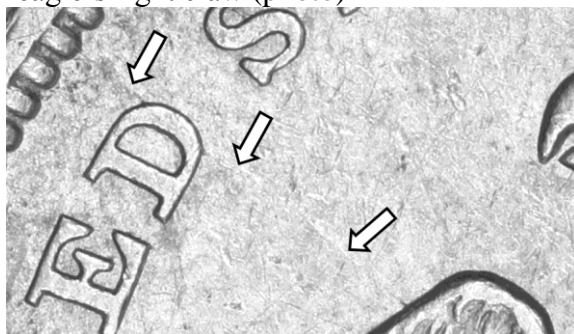
Reverse D



- Large O mintmark tilts slightly left (photo)



- Radial die cracks from rim thru (HA)L(F) to eagle's left claw and from rim along the left side of the (D)O(L) to the olive stem to the eagle's right claw (photo)



- Radial die crack from the eagle's left wing along the right edge of the (UNITE)D to the dentils (photo)

This is the fourth use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3.5, .032"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU58		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104, McCloskey-3.		Version 4.68	

**1840-O
WB-5, Large O**



Obverse 2



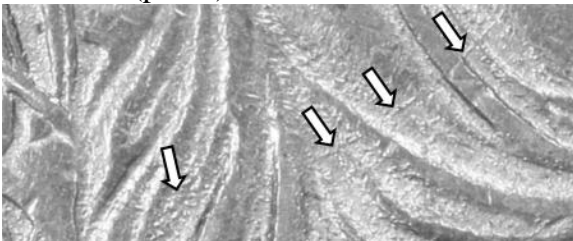
Reverse D (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1840-O WB-6, Large O

Obverse 2



- Date right with the 8 showing repunching to the northeast (photo)



- Die polish lines arching thru Liberty's lower skirt (photo)
- This die was very rusty; Liberty shows raised rust lumps throughout. This die has an overall washed out appearance most likely from extended use.

Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Raised die polish lines above and around the letters of HALF DO(L) (photo)
- Weak feather detail on the eagle's head, neck, and left leg
- Very weak die crack from the top of the eagle's head to (STATE)S (not visible in the photos) and very difficult to see without high magnification and proper lighting even on near mint state coins.

This is the fifth and final use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

This die marriage is one of the rarest of the 1840-Os. At the time of this writing and after decades of searching, I am aware of less than ten examples of this die marriage. Others likely exist.

Date grid: M3.5, .032"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.189"	Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1840-O
WB-6, Large O



Obverse 2



Reverse H

1840-O WB-7, Very small O

Obverse 3



- Centered date with small lump to the left of the loop in the skirt seen on most examples (photo)



- LDS: small lump in the rock support below the ribbon (photo)



- Small lump in the field off the tip of the toe (photo)

Reverse E



- Very small O mintmark centered under the crotch and tilting to the right (photo)
- EDS only: faint diagonal die lines (NW to SE) in lower shield



- VLDS: very weak die crack from rim thru (HA)L(F) to the eagle's middle talon (photo)

Although fairly common, this is the only New Orleans die marriage with a very small O mintmark. Fortunately, for those collectors who do not like to count reeds, the different reed counts found with this obverse and reverse die pair can be determined by characteristics without counting the reeds as follows:

- 145 reeds has a fat reed under the H(ALF) (scarce)
- 146 reeds with a double reed under the eagle's left wing tip (rare)
- 144 normal reeds (most common)

Date grid: M3.5, .030"	144, 145, 146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.207"	Rarity - 2
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Partial	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coins from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102, McCloskey-1.		Version 4.68	

1840-O
WB-7, Very small O



145 reeds with fat reed under H(ALF)



146 reeds with a double reed under left wing tip



144 normal reeds

1840-O
WB-7, Very small O



Obverse 3



Reverse E

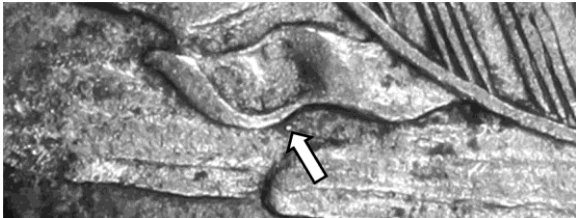
1840-O

WB-8, Large O, Reengraved Obverse Dentils

Obverse 3



- Centered date (photo). The small lump to the left of the loop in the skirt seen on EDS is not visible.

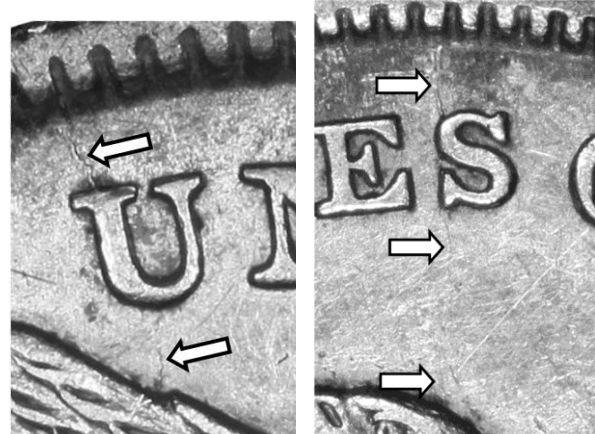


- Small lump in the rock support below the ribbon (photo)
- Small lump in the field off the tip of the toe not seen on this die marriage (as was WB-7); most likely absorbed under the reengraved dentils.
- The obverse dentils, that were weak on the previous use of this die with WB-7, were reengraved much larger here such that the dentils touch the outer most star points and both ends of the rock support. This reworking of the die most likely occurred at the New Orleans Branch Mint as a possible experimental (?) attempt to extend the useful life of this die.

Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Prominent die cracks: from dentils thru the left upright of the U(NITED) to the eagle's left wing (photo at left) and another die crack from the top of the eagle's head to (STATE)S (photo at right). Additional weaker cracks from the dentils thru the right side of the (D)O(L) to the tip of the olive stem and, in LDS, from the eagle's right upper wing into the field towards the O(F) and from the right lower wing tip to the nearest arrow shaft.

This is the second use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Reverse rotations: EDS - 5° CCW, LDS - 30° CW. Normal die alignment not seen (?).

Date grid: M4, .034"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.187"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Reengraved; Reverse - Weak	
Grade of coin depicted: Bugert - XF45 Wiley - AU53		XF coin from the Bill Bugert Collection AU coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104, McCloskey-5.		Version 4.68	

1840-O
WB-8, Large O, Reengraved Obverse Dentils



Obverse 3



Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1840-O WB-9, Large O, Reengraved Obverse Dentils Baseball Die Crack Reverse

Obverse 3

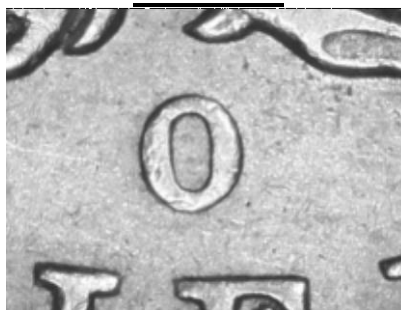


- Centered date (photo)



- Small lump in the rock support below the ribbon (photo)
- The obverse dentils were reengraved much larger here such that the dentils touch the outer most star points and both ends of the rock support.

Reverse I



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- “H-like” die crack as depicted above (photo) and on the following page

This is the third and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

I have not seen this die marriage without the reverse die cracks.

Two reed counts exist for this die marriage; 145 and 146. EDS coins without the die crack between the eagle’s right wing and the eagle’s head coins may have 145 reeds and these are much rarer than the 146 reeds found in later die states. There is no absolute method of determining the reed count of coins of this die marriage without actually counting them.

Date grid: M3.5, .032”	EDS: 145 reeds LDS: 146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.207”	EDS (145 reeds) Rarity - 6 LDS (146 reeds) Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Partial	Dentils: Obverse - Reengraved; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

**1840-O WB-9, Large O, Reengraved Obverse Dentils
Baseball Die Crack Reverse**



Obverse 3



Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1840-O WB-10, Small O

Obverse 4



- Date high and left (photo)
- The primary diagnostic for this obverse die is the date grid; the date is further left and higher than other 1840-Os.



- Some die states: horizontal die lines in Liberty's gown to the right of her left hand (photo)

Reverse F



- Small O mintmark (photo)



- Extensively cracked reverse die; notably, from the rim thru H(ALF) thru the eagle's left claw thru the olive stem to the right wing thru (AMER)I(CA) to the rim. Others from the rim thru (ST)A(TES) to the upper left wing tip and from rim below U(NITED) thru lower left wing tip thru the olive leaves (photo). In LDS, shallow internal cuds form between the olive leaves and lower left wing tip and right wing thru (AME)RI(CA).
- EDS without die cracks: extremely rare.

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Infrequently found in a LDS with the reverse rotated 11° counter-clockwise.

Date grid: M2, .022"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103, McCloskey-2.		Version 4.68	

1840-O
WB-10, Small O



Obverse 4 (Note iron bit in planchet at Liberty's foot)



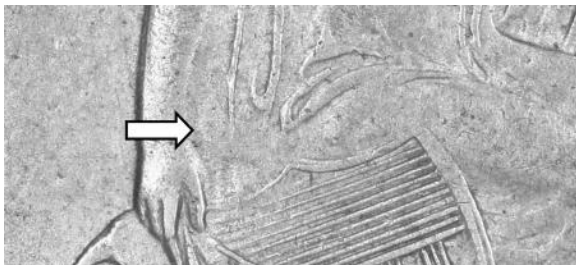
Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)
(Note iron bits in planchet at DOL. and above eagle's head)

1840-O WB-11, Large O

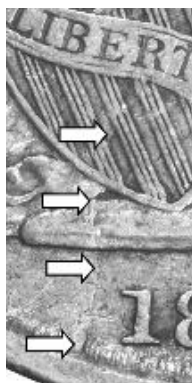
Obverse 5



- Date low (photo). Note weak to non-existent dentils.



- All die states: Liberty's mid-section above the shield is very weakly struck, more so on LDS coins (MDS shown above). The grade of the obverse will appear at least 5 points lower than it actually is. (photo)
- Most die states: very weak dentils
- VLDS: die crack from rim to left date thru rock support into shield towards (LIBE)R(TY) (photo)



Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- LDS: bisecting die crack as above (photo)
- EDS: die uncracked but eagle's head and neck feathers weak

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .034"	EDS: 146 reeds LDS: 145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	EDS (146 reeds) R - 6 M/LDS: Rarity - 2
Draper die state: EDS: Full LDS: Weak	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Weak	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU55 LDS: AU50		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104, McCloskey-4.		Version 4.68	

**1840-O
WB-11, Large O**



Obverse 5



Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

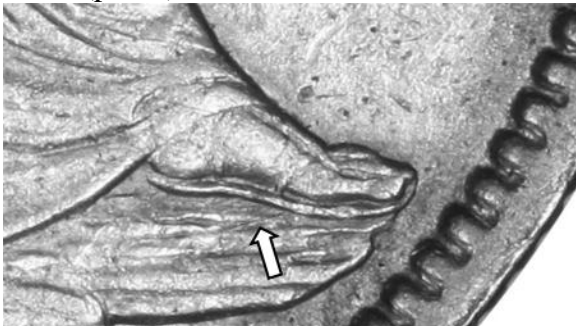
1840-O

WB-12, No Mintmark, Medium Letters, Large Eagle

Obverse 6



- Date high with the flag of the 1 repunched north (photo)



- At least six nearly horizontal die lines in the rock support under Liberty's foot (photo)
- All examples seen of this die marriage have the obverse with a washed out appearance, especially on the lower shield, from being weakly struck or a clogged die, not die polishing; later die marriages have a strong shield (see WB-13).

Reverse C



- No mintmark (photo)
- On this die marriage, the die was polished enough that the lower arrow feathers and olive stem are weak (see photo above and next page).
- Bust style reverse. Long thought to be a product of the Philadelphia mint, this die marriage was actually minted at New Orleans using a carried over bust reverse die from 1839 where the mintmark was on the obverse of the coin.
- Among the differences on this die, the legend and denomination are larger (termed medium letters), the eagle and reverse shield are larger, the eagle's claws are open, the olive leaves and arrowheads are more spread than the "seated style." See the enlarged photo on the following page and compare to the seated style.

This is the first use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

For further discussion of the key differences (some not discussed herein) between the reverse types, see Randy Wiley's excellent article in *Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume I*, pages 263-268.

Date grid: M3.5, .021"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.191"	Rarity - 6
Draperies die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1840-O
WB-12, No Mintmark, Medium Letters, Large Eagle



Obverse 6



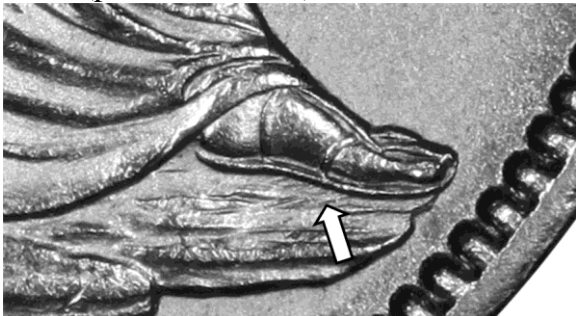
Reverse C (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1840-O WB-13, Large O

Obverse 6



- Date high with the flag of the 1 repunched north (photo – XF coin)



- At least six diagonal die lines (SW to NE) in the rock support under Liberty's foot (photo)

Reverse J



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All die states: prominent die cracks from rim thru mintmark to olive branch, rim along (DO)L to lower arrow shaft, rim thru olive leaf #1, rim along (S)T(ATES) to left wing and rim thru (A)M(ERICA) to right wing (photo). Others, see next page.
- I have not seen this die uncracked.

This is the second use of this obverse die and only use of reverse die.

Date grid: M3.5, .022"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.189"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS64		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104, McCloskey-6.		Version 4.68	

1840-O
WB-13, Large O



Obverse 6



Reverse J (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1840-O WB-14, Large O

Obverse 6



- Date high with the flag of the 1 repunched north (photo). Repunching not visible on LDS coins.

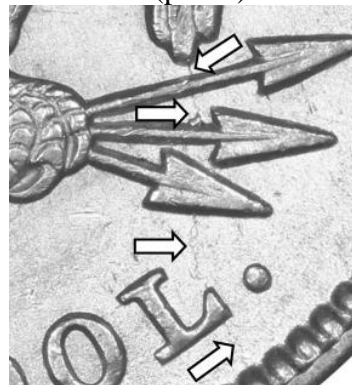


- The diagonal die lines in the rock support under Liberty's foot seen on previous uses of this die are polished away with the foot support. (photo)
- Die starting to wear; "orange peel effect" visible in fields

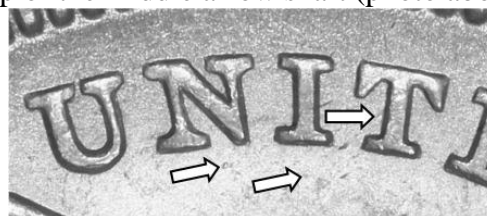
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracks prominently from rim thru (DO)L thru arrow shafts into right wing (photo) to AM(ERICA) along base of OF A between (STATE)S O(F). In LDS, another from the eagle's beak to the upper left wing. EDS, the die crack starts between the arrow shafts and first appears as a small lump (break) along the top of the middle arrow shaft (photo above).



- Small rust lumps in and around the field below UNIT(ED) (photo)
- Intermittent rim cuds from K-6 thru K-12

This is the third and final use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

All (?) examples seen have the reverse rotated slightly by 3° clockwise.

Date grid: M3.5, .020"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.192"	Rarity - 5
Draperies die state: Full	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS63		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1840-O
WB-14, Large O



Obverse 6



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1841-O

With about one-half the mintage of 1840, the New Orleans half dollars of 1841 have almost as many die marriages. There is plenty to keep a collector's focus: two mintmark sizes (medium and large), the rare baseball crack reverse die marriage and remarriage, a transitional die with the 1842-O small date, and plenty of cracked dies. The mint still had problems with iron in the planchets (as in 1840), but the problem seemed to have faded with increasing mint personnel competence.

Eleven die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
401,000	Requested	-	-	-	2 (145, 146)
	Shipped	-	8*	10*	
	Known	11	7	8	

* = The number of dies listed above is from the New Orleans *Registry of Dies* and is misleading. The ten reverse dies were the last small letter reverse dies shipped to the New Orleans Branch Mint. The tenth reverse die was never acknowledged as received at New Orleans. It is believed that the Philadelphia Mint records erroneously recorded one pair of half dime dies as half dollar dies so the actual number of half dollar dies shipped is seven obverse and nine reverse.

A line in the New Orleans *Registry of Dies* reported that on April 20, 1842, seven obverse and eight reverse dies were defaced. The other dies remained but only one reverse die was carried over for use in 1842.





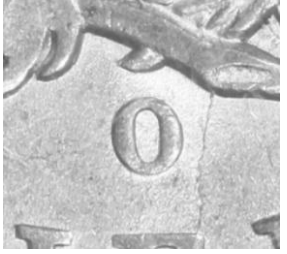



As late as December 1, 1840, Philadelphia reported that the 1841 dies were still in the process of being prepared.

Clearwater Hoard. Walter Breen in his *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* mentions the Clearwater Hoard of possibly 40 Uncirculated 1841-O half dollars that turned up in Clearwater, Florida (?) before 1957. The Coin Galleries sale of 11/1988:2166 identified an 1841-O half dollar as from this hoard and further cites the source as from the site of the old Fort Harrison. It appears to be a WB-3 variety. I have seen nothing more definitive on this hoard.

1841-O date grid quick reference table

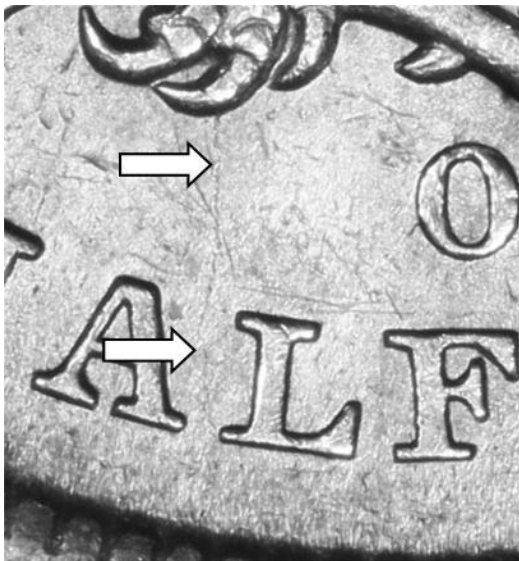
Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
M2 , .026"	WB-2
M2 , .026"	WB-3
M2 , .032"	WB-6
M3 , .035"	WB-9
M3 , .038"	WB-11
M3.5, .022"	WB-5
M3.5, .025"	WB-7
M3.5, .036"	WB-8
M4 , .029"	WB-1
M4 , .038"	WB-4
M4 , .038"	WB-10

1841-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions

Medium O	 Reverse B, WB-2	 Reverse C, WB-3	
Large O	 Reverse A, WB-1	 Reverse D, WB-4, 5	 Reverse E, WB-6
	 Reverse F, WB-7, 9, 10	 Reverse G, WB-8	 Reverse H, WB-11

1841-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Die crack thru S(TATES) to eagle's beak	Baseball stitch-like die cracks	Eagle's head and neck feathers weak	Die crack from rim thru (U)N(ITED) into eagle's left wing	EDS: diagonal die lines thru shield LDS: die cracks	Die crack between (H)AL(F)	Die crack between (H)AL(F) touches A	Die cracks prominently along the denomination and legend
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
		Large O	Medium O		Large O				
		Small cud near stars 2-3	1	WB-1					
Date left	2		WB-2	WB-3					
Die lines from Liberty's left hand and rock	3				WB-4		WB-10		
Small lump behind Liberty's eye	4				WB-5				
Date left	5					WB-6			
Small lump near star 10	6						WB-7		
Die line in the dentils below the left edge of the 1	7						WB-9	WB-8	WB-11

Similarities of die cracks between reverses F and G. Other differences aside, the die cracks between (H)AL(F) on reverse F and G are so similar that special emphasis is necessary to avoid confusion. See the photos below with narrative descriptions to distinguish them.



Reverse F: die crack between (H)AL(F)



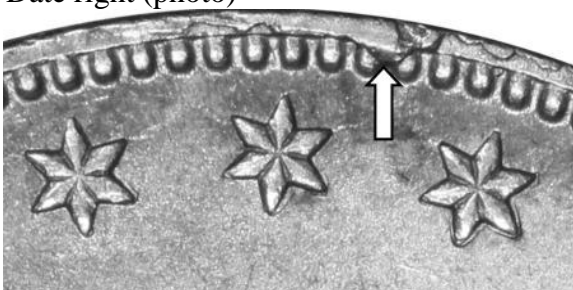
Reverse G: die crack touches (H)A(LF)

1841-O WB-1, Large O

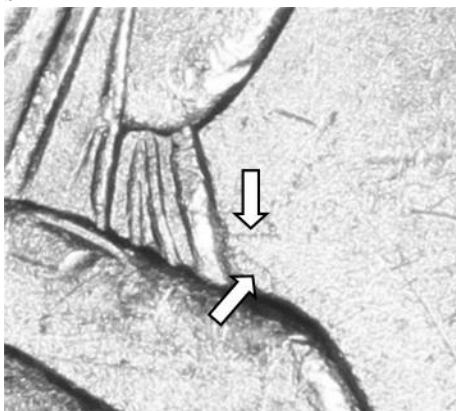
Obverse 1



- Date right (photo)

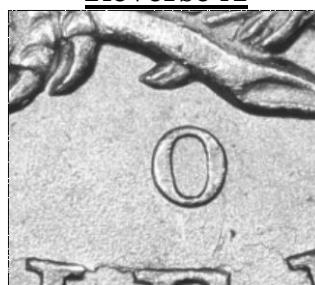


- Triangular shaped cud in the dentils between stars 2-3 (photo) visible even on low grade coins



- Two die lines (one horizontal, the other diagonal) from the drapery below Liberty's elbow (photo)

Reverse A



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- LDS: heavily cracked die initially and prominently from the dentils thru the S(TATES) to the eagle's beak; another from the dentils thru (AMERIC(A) to the eagle's right wing (photo above and below). Others thru parts of the denomination and legend as shown on the next page.



This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M4, .029"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.185"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS61		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1841-O
WB-1, Large O



Obverse 1



Reverse A (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1841-O

WB-2, Medium O, Baseball Die Cracks

Obverse 2



- Date left (photo)
- Faint repunching of the 8 visible on EDS coins
- The foot support on this die marriage is the key to determining the difference between the first die marriage and the remarriage of these dies. See the following page for more details and photos.

Reverse B



- Medium O mintmark (photo)



- All die states: baseball stitch-like die cracks (photo); hence, the nickname of this die marriage. Other cracks from rim to (STATE)S along the base of letters OF AM(ERICA). Not seen uncracked.

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die. This rare die marriage has a remarriage; see next page for details.

This is a very scarce die marriage popular with collectors for its interesting die cracks. Almost all found grade XF or below.

Date grid: M2, .026"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.183"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: see next page	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse: - Full	
Grade of coins depicted: both VF35	First marriage coin from the Bill Bugert Collection Remarriage coin from the Randy Wiley Collection		
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1841-O

WB-2 and WB-2R Remarriage

Medium O, Baseball Die Cracks

Based on my analysis of multiple examples of this die marriage and the use of this obverse die common to both WB-2 and WB-3, I believe this die marriage was minted in at least two separate and distinct batches. They can be easily distinguished by the obverse die state particularly the amount of rock support below Liberty's foot. This first marriage (WB-2, photos below left) has full foot support and was minted prior to WB-3s. WB-3s can be found with full to weak foot support in the latest die state. The second batch (WB-2R, photos below right) of this die marriage, a remarriage of these dies, was minted after WB-3 and has very weak foot support. Both the marriage and remarriage seem to have the same rarity with R-5 for both combined.

WB-2 First marriage	WB-2R Remarriage
	
	
	

1841-O
WB-2, Medium O, Baseball Die Cracks



Obverse 2



Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1841-O WB-3, Medium O

Obverse 2



- Date left (photo). Note the weak dentils in the LDS photos above as compared to the EDS below.



- EDS and high grade coins: repunched 8 (photo)

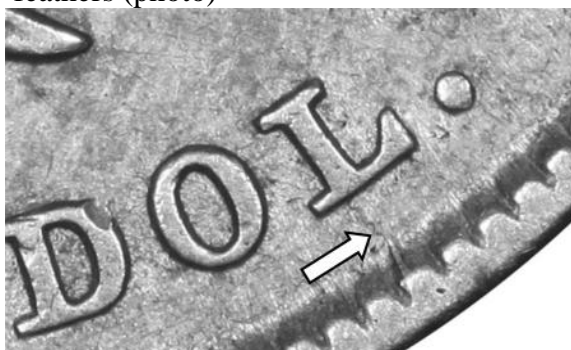
Reverse C



- Medium O mintmark tilting left (photo)



- All die states: weak eagle's head and neck feathers (photo)



- VLDS: die crack from rim to (DO)L (photo)



- VLDS: die crack from the junction of (AME)RI(CA) to eagle's right wing

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .026"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.187"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full to Partial	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full to weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1841-O
WB-3, Medium O



Obverse 2



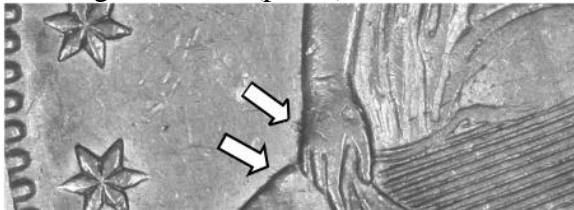
Reverse C (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1841-O WB-4, Large O

Obverse 3



- Date right and low (photo)



- Weak die lines from Liberty's left hand and rock (photo)

Reverse D



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- No diagnostics other than mintmark position on this die marriage

This is the first use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Some examples seen are weakly struck on the obverse and reverse (as depicted on next page).

Date grid: M4, .038"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.184"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1841-O
WB-4, Large O



Obverse 3



Reverse D

1841-O WB-5, Large O

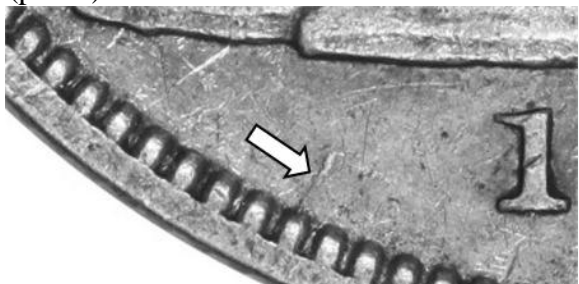
Obverse 4



- Centered date (photo)



- Small lump on the temple behind Liberty's eye (photo)



- Die crack from dentils towards the rock support to the left of the date (photo)
- File line in dentils at star 4

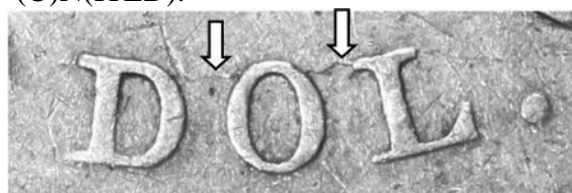
Reverse D



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die crack from rim thru (U)N(ITED) into eagle's left wing to shield edge (photo). A small retained cud forms inside the upper (U)N(ITED).



- Die crack along the top of letters DOL (photo). Another along bottom of letters (ST)ATES O(F).
- VLDS: heavy die crack from the left base of H(ALF) to the rim between two dentils

This is the only use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3.5, .022"

145 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.187"

Rarity - 4

Drapery die state: Full

Foot support: Full

Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: AU50

Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection

Cross reference: WB-101.

Version 4.68

1841-O
WB-5, Large O



Obverse 4



Reverse D (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1841-O WB-6, Large O

Obverse 5

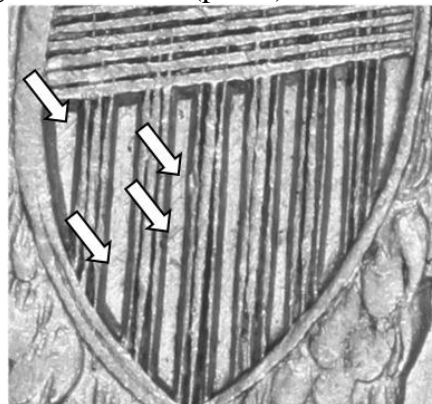


- Date left (photo)

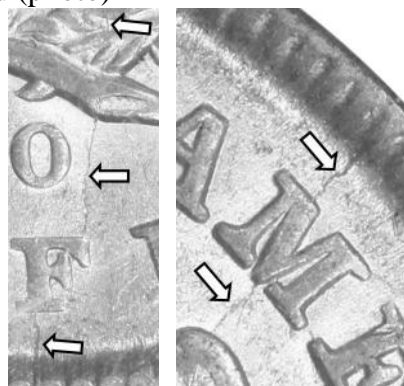
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- EDS: diagonal (SW to NE) parallel die lines in shield (photo)



- LDS: die crack from the dentil thru the (HAL)F to the right of the mintmark into the arrow feathers thru the eagle and out the right wing thru the (A)M(ERICA) (photos)

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .032"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 4
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Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - LDS-weak; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: PCGS AU55	Coins from the Bill Bugert Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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**1841-O
WB-6, Large O**



Obverse 5



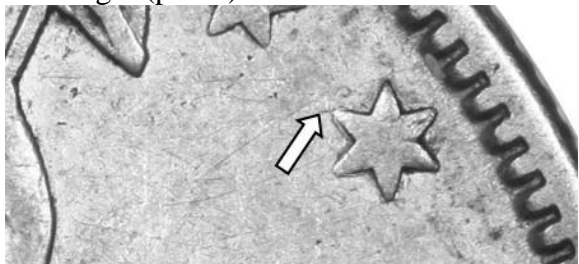
Reverse E (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1841-O WB-7, Large O

Obverse 6



- Date right (photo)



- Small lump near star 10 (photo)
- Stars 7 and 8 and the top of Liberty's head were weakly struck.
- The top of the drapery is disconnected from Liberty's elbow.

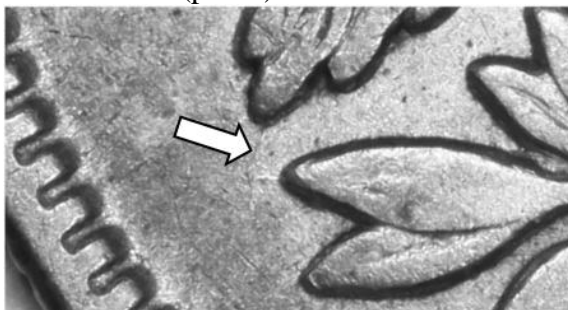
Reverse F



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Weak die crack between (H)AL(F) to eagle's middle talon (photo)



- Weak die crack starting from the lower left wing tip towards the dentils (photo)
- Weakly struck eagle's head feathers

This is the only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die in 1841. This reverse die was also used in 1842 with the 1842-O small date obverse die.

Date grid: M3.5, .025"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.183"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1841-O
WB-7, Large O**



Obverse 6



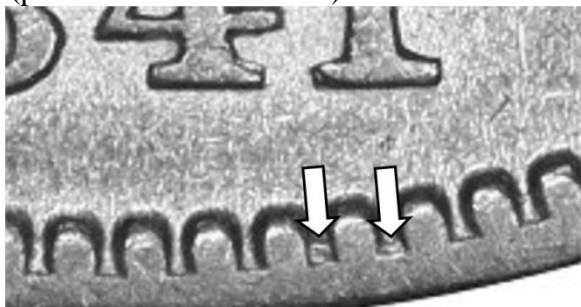
Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1841-O WB-8, Large O

Obverse 7



- Date right with heavy horizontal die line in the dentils below the left edge and center of the 1 (photos above and below)



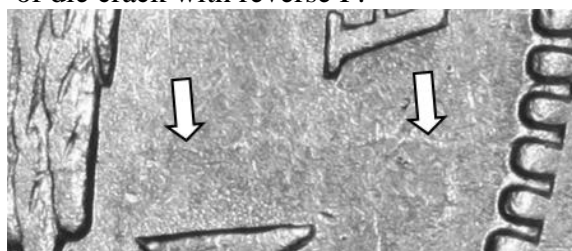
Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die crack between (H)AL(F) (touches A) to eagle's middle talon (photo). Note similarities of die crack with reverse F.



- Die crack from rim to eagle's right wing at K-3 (photo)
- LDS: die crack from eagle's beak to (ST)A(TES)

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die. At least one MDS seen has an 11° counter clockwise rotated reverse.

Date grid: M4, .038"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.183"	Rarity - 3
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Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: AU53	EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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1841-O
WB-8, Large O



Obverse 7



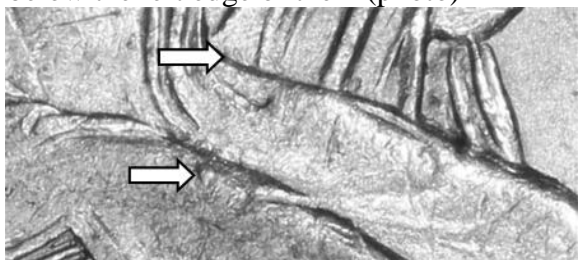
Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1841-O WB-9, Large O

Obverse 7



- Date right with horizontal die line in the dentils below the left edge of the 1 (photo)



- Small lump on Liberty's lap on her left thigh (visible only on high grade coins); vertical die lines on Liberty's upper right thigh (visible on EDS coins only) (photo)

Reverse F



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die crack between (H)AL(F) to eagle's middle talon (photo)



- Die crack starting from the lower left wing tip towards the dentils (photo)
- Weakly struck eagle's head feathers
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the second use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die in 1841. This reverse die was also used in 1842 with the 1842-O small date obverse die.

Date grid: M3.5, .036"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.188"	Rarity - 4
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Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: AU58	Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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1841-O
WB-9, Large O



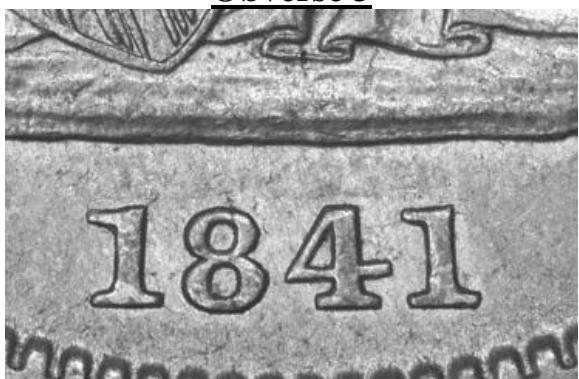
Obverse 7



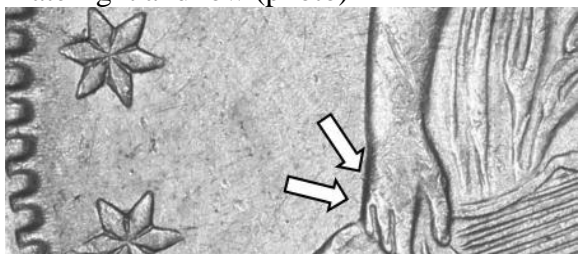
Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1841-O WB-10, Large O

Obverse 3



- Date right and low (photo)

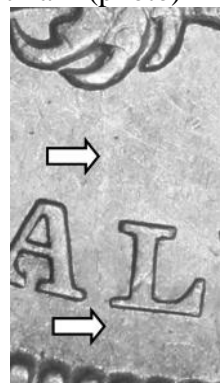


- Weak die lines from Liberty's left hand and rock (photo)

Reverse F



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die crack between (H)AL(F) to eagle's middle talon (photo). Note similarities of die crack with reverse G.



- Die crack starting from the lower left wing tip towards the dentils (photo)
- Weakly struck eagle's head feathers
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and third and final use of this reverse die in 1841. This reverse die was also used in 1842 with the 1842-O small date obverse die.

Date grid: M3, .035"	146 reeds, collar cracked from K-2 to K-3 (obverse view)	Typical diameter = 1.187"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1841-O
WB-10, Large O**



Obverse 3



Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1841-O WB-11, Large O

Obverse 7



- Date right (photo). Note worn dentils; the horizontal die line in the dentils below the 1 seen on previous uses of this die is not visible on this die marriage.
- LDS: die crack between stars 3-4

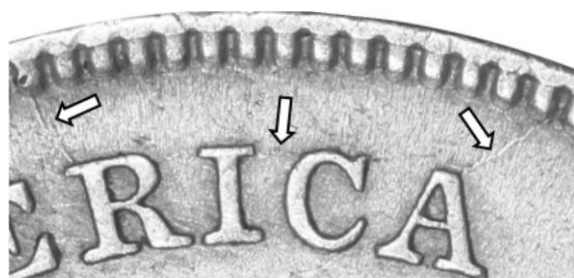
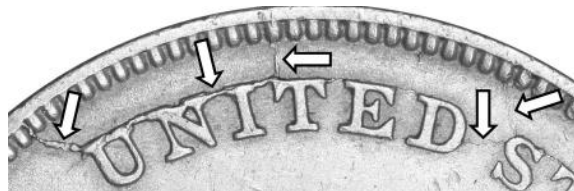
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- LDS: heavily cracked die prominently along the denomination and legend (photos above and below). The LDS with a cud forming along top of UNIT(ED) is at least an R-5 rarity. EDS: die cracks start along the top of letters UNITED.



This is the third and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3, .038"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.184"	Rarity - 3
Draper die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1841-O
WB-11, Large O**



Obverse 7



Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1842-O

From my observations, this date is one of the most highly collected by major varieties in all the Liberty Seated Half Dollar series. With a fairly high mintage, there are enough varieties to keep a collector interested. These varieties include four different reed counts, digits in the dentils, small and large diameters, errant 4 in Liberty's gown, digits in the shield and rock support, rotated dies, large cud above (UN)ITE(D), and plenty of cracked dies in late die states. Some of these are rare die marriages that will keep you looking for a while.

Thirteen die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
Small date = 203,000 Medium date = 754,000	Requested	-	-	-	4
	Shipped	-	8	7	(143, 144,
	Known	13	8	11	145, 146)

Half Dollar mintages by month in 1842			
Jan 1842 - 84,000	Feb 1842 - 119,000	Mar 1842 - 96,000	Apr 1842 - 80,000
May 1842 - 168,000	Jun 1842 - 26,000	Jul 1842 - None	Aug 1842 - None
Sep 1842 - None	Oct 1842 - 106,000	Nov 1842 - 122,000	Dec 1842 - 156,000

The first two months mintage, January and February, are generally accepted to include the small date varieties although the initial 1842 delivery of those coins on February 28, 1842 included some coins dated 1841. The remaining months are of the medium date mintage.

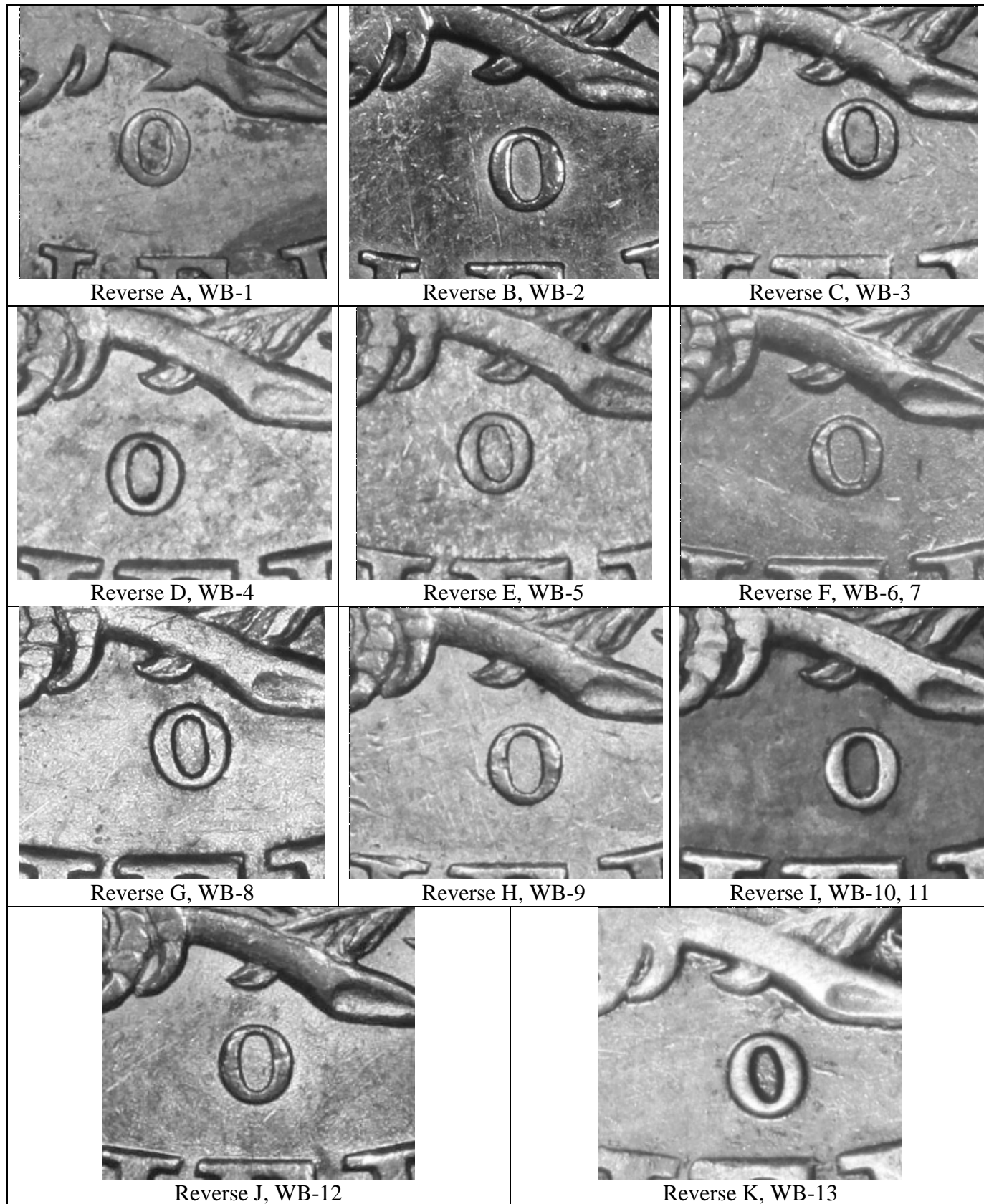
1842-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
L5.5, .022"	WB-11
M1, .018"	WB-3
M1, .019"	WB-4
M1, .020"	WB-5
M1, .020"	WB-7
M1, .022"	WB-12
M1.5, .014"	WB-9
M1.5, .014"	WB-10
M1.5, .024"	WB-13
M2.5, .023"	WB-8
M2.5, .025"	WB-6
M5.5, .029"	WB-2
R1, .028"	WB-1

In June 1986, Randy Wiley studied thirty-one 1842-O small date half dollars (WB-1s and WB-2s) in Roy Pohler's "Louisiana Hoard" before they were dispersed. The hoard break down by grade was as follows: AG (3), G (4), VG (6), F (5), VF (8), XF (4), and AU (1).

An 1842-O small date half dollar (appears to be a WB-2?) with a reverse partial brockage was discovered by Gerry Kochel and reported in *The Gobrecht Journal* Issue 89, March 2004.

1842-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions



1842-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Mintmark high and to the left; weak eagle	Mintmark low and to the right; Die crack between (H)AL(F)	Large lump in field below (UNIT)E(D)	Heavy die gouges in the eagle's upper left wing	Die lines around (AM)ER(ICA) and die crack from dentil to (A)M(ERICA)	Lower shield line extends into eagle's left wing feathers; vertical shield line A1 extends thru all horizontal shield lines
		A	B	C	D	E	F
Small Date	1	WB-1	WB-2				
Date left	2			WB-3	WB-4	WB-5	WB-7
Errant 84 in shield and rock	3						WB-6

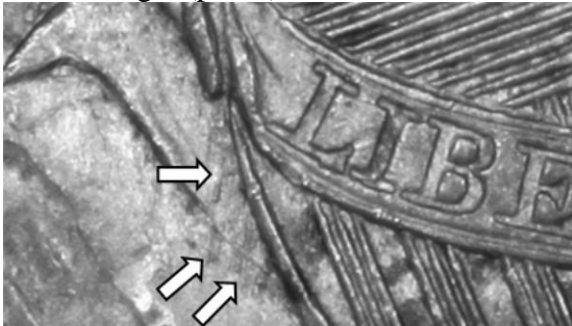
1842-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Gouge in shield's outer left edge	Bisecting die crack	Die crack above UNIT(ED)	Various die lines above (A)M(ERICA)	Cracked die and die lines thru HALF DOL
		G	H	I	J	K
Date centered	4	WB-8				
Lump by left index finger	5		WB-9	WB-11		
Die crack at K-4 and K-11	6			WB-10		
Reengraved foot support	7				WB-12	
Errant 4 in Liberty's gown Reengraved foot support; Large Diameter	8					WB-13

1842-O WB-1, Small Date

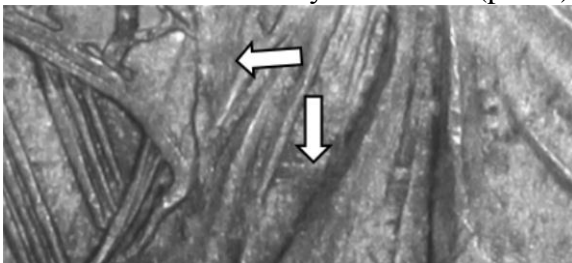
Obverse 1



- Date far right (photo)



- Vertical die lines in the rock to the left of the shield and below Liberty's left hand (photo)

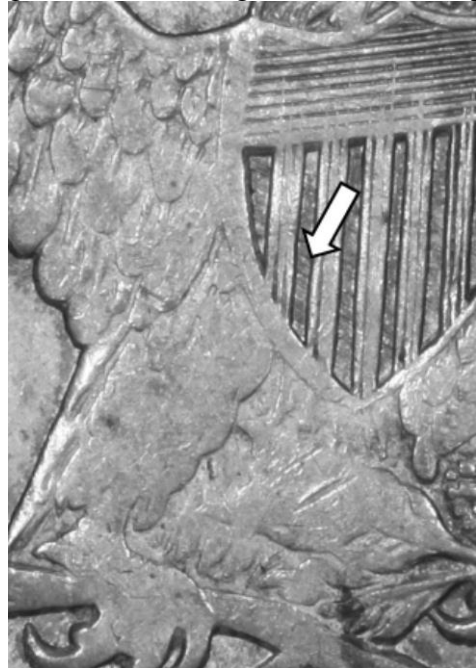


- Faint perpendicular die lines in Liberty's gown to the right of the scroll (photo)

Reverse A



- Large O mintmark high and to the left (photo)



- Diagonal die lines (NW to SE) inside lower shield; weak eagle's left leg, left shield edge, and talons typical on this die marriage (photo)

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die in 1842.

Date grid: R1, .028"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.184"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS62		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1842-O
WB-1, Small Date



Obverse 1



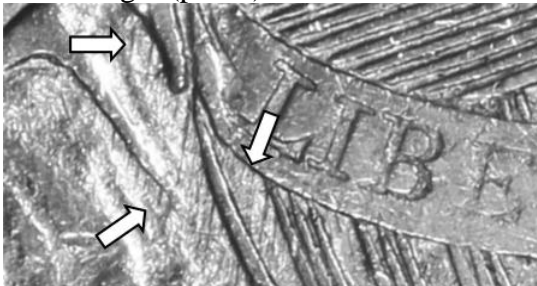
Reverse A

1842-O WB-2, Small Date

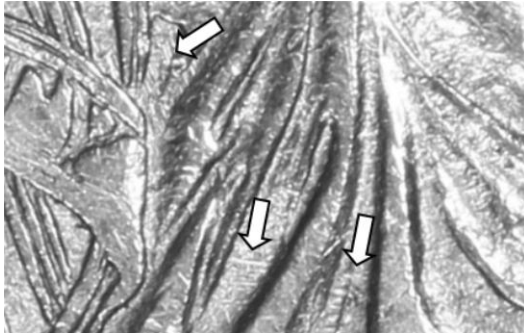
Obverse 1



- Date far right (photo)



- Vertical die lines in the rock to the left of the shield and below Liberty's left hand (photo)



- Faint perpendicular die lines in Liberty's gown to the right of the scroll (photo)
- LDS: die cracks from dentils at K-7 into rock support and scroll; another from dentils to star 7 and a third from Liberty's shin into field towards star 11

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark low and to the right (photo)



- Die crack between (H)AL(F) to eagle's middle talon (photo)



- Die crack from the lower left wing tip towards the dentils (photo); LDS, another along letters in legend
- Weakly struck eagle's head feathers
- Clash in shield's lower right
- This reverse die is transitional with 1841-O reverse F.

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die in 1842.

From analysis of the reverse die crack, this die marriage was minted before 1841-O WB-7, 9, and 10.

Date grid: M5.5, .029"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.185"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Weak	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1842-O
WB-2, Small Date



Obverse 1



Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1842-O WB-3, Medium Date

Obverse 2

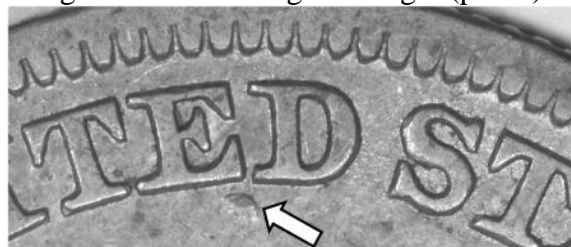


- Date left (photo)
- Repunched stars 10-13

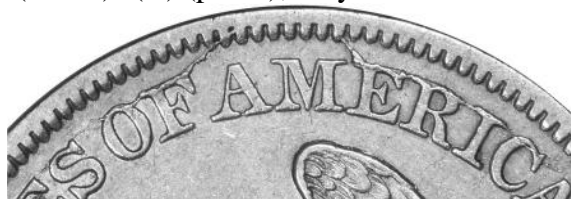
Reverse C



- Large O mintmark high and right (photo)



- EDS to MDS coins: large lump in field below (UNIT)E(D) (photo); very faint on LDS coins



- LDS: die crack along entire legend and denomination notably from dentils to (O)F and from dentils to (AM)E(RICA) (photo). Another from rim to (STA)T(ES) and dentils to (UN)IT(ED). Also see enhanced die crack photo.

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

In EDS to MDS coins, about 1/3 of the collar has a die crack perpendicular to the reeds; LDS don't have this so the collar must have deteriorated and was changed.

Date grid: M1, .018"	143 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.187"	Rarity - 3
Dravery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: AU53		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1842-O
WB-3, Medium Date



Obverse 2



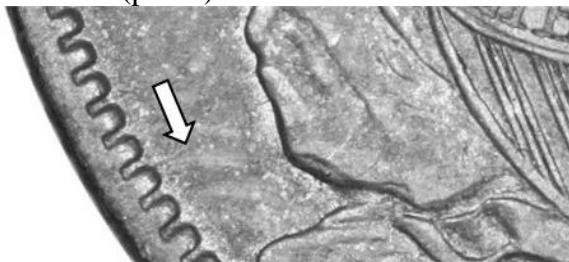
Reverse C (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1842-O WB-4, Medium Date

Obverse 2



- Date left (photo)

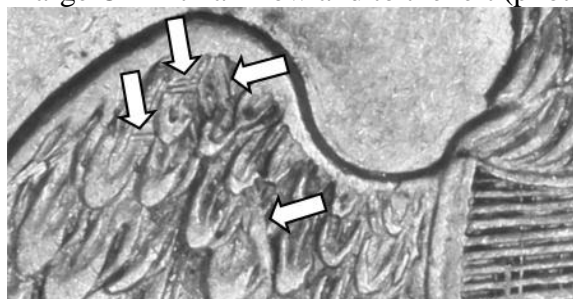


- Die crack from dentil at K-7 to rock (photo)
- Repunched stars 10-13

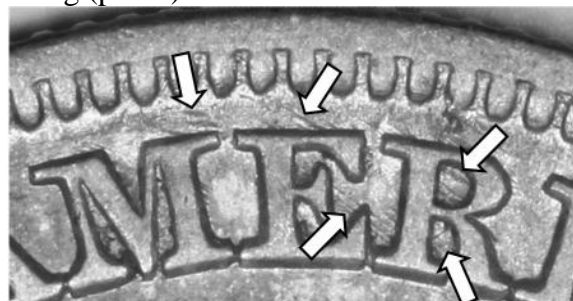
Reverse D



- Large O mintmark low and to the left (photo)



- Heavy die gouges in the eagle's upper left wing (photo)



- Scattered die scratches in and around (A)MER(ICA) (photo); another in dentils above (STAT)E(S). Note similarities in die lines to WB-5.
- LDS: die cracks from dentil to UNIT(ED) and along the base of denomination, and others from arrow heads to (AMERIC)A

This is the second use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .019"	143 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1842-O
WB-4, Medium Date



Obverse 2



Reverse D (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

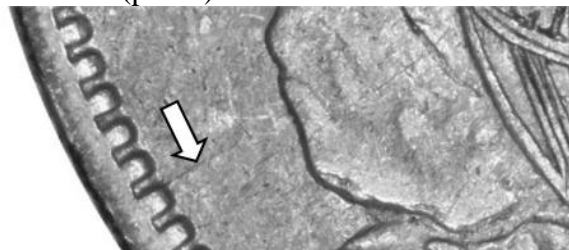
1842-O

WB-5, Medium Date

Obverse 2



- Date left (photo)



- Die crack from dentil at K-7 to rock (photo)
- Repunched stars 10-13

Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die lines around (AM)ER(ICA) and die crack from dentil to (A)M(ERICA) (photo). Note similarities in die lines to WB-4.



- Die crack from dentils to U(NITED) (photo); later from dentils to (U)N(ITED).



- LDS: another die crack from rim thru D(OL) into field.

This is the third use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die

Date grid: M1, .020"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse- Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU50 LDS: AU53		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.			Version 4.68

1842-O
WB-5, Medium Date



Obverse 2



Reverse E (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

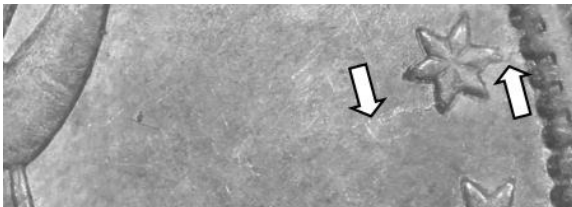
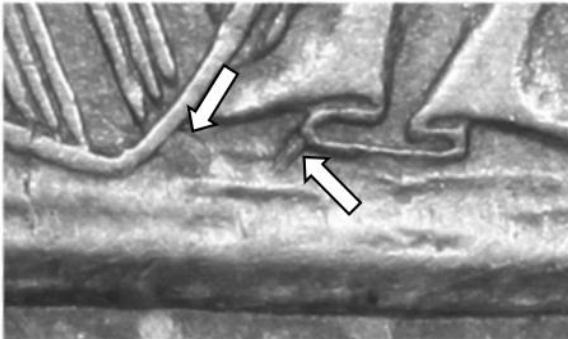
1842-O

WB-6, Medium Date, Errant 84

Obverse 3



- Date centered (photo). Errant 84 in the lower shield and rock support (photos above and below)

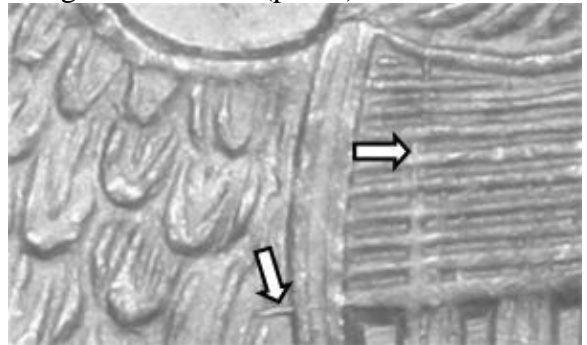


- Die crack from dentil thru star 11 into field (photo)

Reverse F



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Lower shield line extends into eagle's left wing feathers; vertical shield line A1 extends thru all horizontal shield lines (photo)



- Die lines from dentils above S(TAT)E(S) (photo). Another above (AMER)I(CA)

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

This die marriage was known to Wiley and Bugert in 1993 but the errant 84 characteristic had not been identified. Accordingly, it was counted among ten generic die marriages as WB-102. "Errant 84" was discovered by Dick Osburn in 1996 and subsequently listed in Kevin Flynn's Two Dates are Better Than One reference book.

Date grid: M2.5, .025"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: NGC MS61		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1842-O
WB-6, Medium Date, Errant 84



Obverse 3



Reverse F

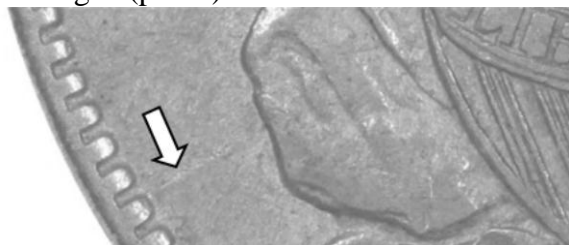
1842-O

WB-7, Medium Date

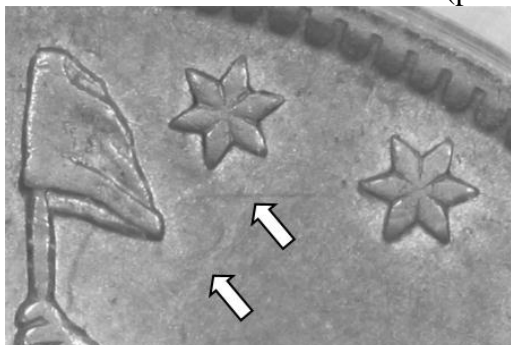
Obverse 2



- Date left now with a die crack along the base of the digits (photo)



- Die crack from dentil at K-7 to rock (photo)

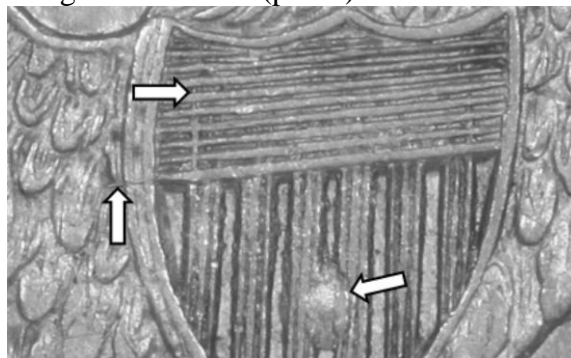


- LDS: faint die crack from dentils past star 9 into field (photo); others thru stars 8-11 and Liberty's cap
- Repunched stars 10-13

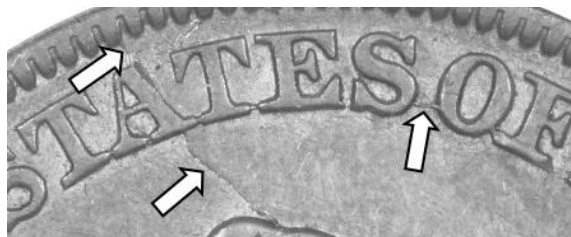
Reverse F



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Lower shield line extends into eagle's left wing feathers; vertical shield line A1 extends thru all horizontal shield lines; large lump (internal cud or die chip?) in center of shield (photo) not currently seen on WB-6. I am unsure when this large lump first appeared: LDS WB-6 or EDS WB-7.



- Die crack from eagle's beak thru (ST)A(TES) to rim and along base of letters STATES OF (photo). Other die cracks along the denomination and other letters of the legend.

This is the fourth and final use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die

Date grid: M1, .020"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.188"	Rarity - 5
Dravery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse: - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1842-O
WB-7, Medium Date



Obverse 2 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



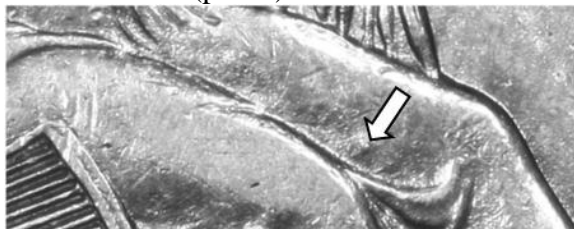
Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1842-O WB-8, Medium Date

Obverse 4

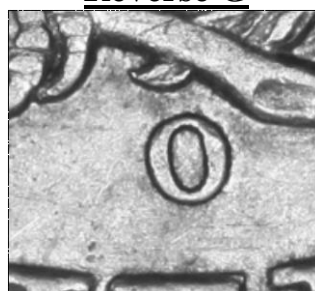


- Date centered (photo)



- EDS high grade coins have a lump on Liberty's right thigh above the knees (photo).
- LDS: weak dentils; weak die crack thru most stars and along base of digits in date
- VLDS: heavy die clash lines in the field to the right of the drapery

Reverse G



- Large O mintmark high and tilted to the left (photo)



- Gouge in shield's outer left edge; lower shield line extends into eagle's left wing feathers (photo)



- LDS: large cud along the top of letters (UN)ITED (photo). Very rare as such.
- LDS other die cracks thru legend and denomination. See next page.
- Clash in lower shield

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.
Some EDS to MDS coins have 90° and 180° counter-clockwise and 145° clockwise rotated reverses.
Other rotations likely exist.

Date grid: M2.5, .023"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.186"	Rarity - 3 LDS w/rev cud: Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full to weak Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1842-O
WB-8, Medium Date



Obverse 4



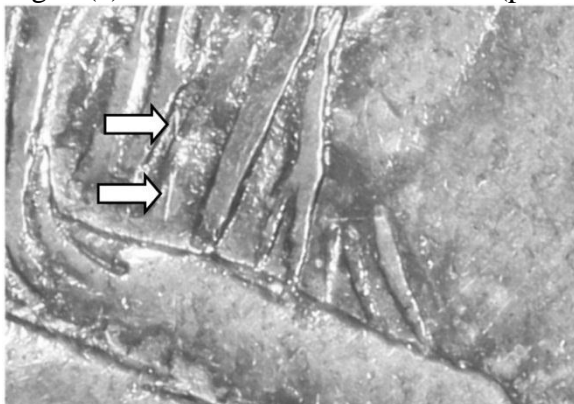
Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1842-O WB-9, Medium Date

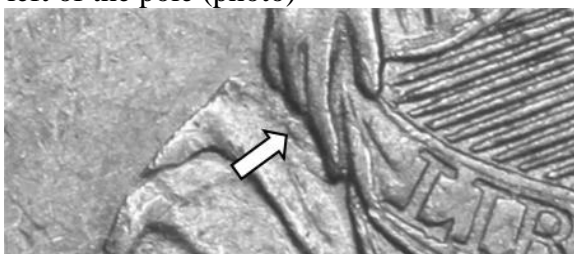
Obverse 5



- Date left slanting down to right; the crossbar of the 4 shows repunching to the north, and errant digits (?) in the dentils below the date (photo)



- Long vertical die line above Liberty's lap to the left of the pole (photo)

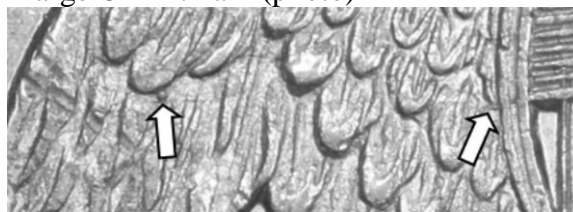


- Small lump in rock near index finger (photo)
- Rust lumps on Liberty and shield

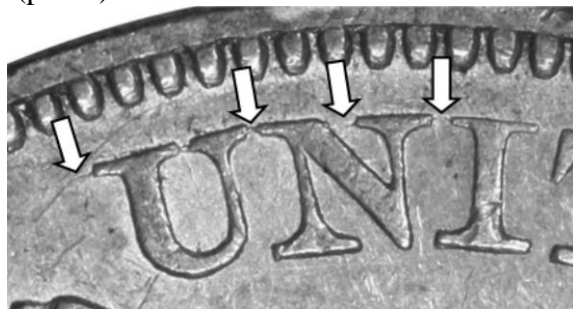
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lump in upper left wing; lower shield line extends into eagle's left wing feathers (photo)



- Prominent die cracks; first cracked on UNIT(ED) (photo) and along the tops of letters (STATE)S OF
- LDS: extensively cracked die from K-4 to K-10); see photos next two pages.

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .014"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.181"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Weak	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU58		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1842-O
WB-9, Medium Date
Major Die States



EDS: K-4 to K-10 bisecting die crack just starting
(Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection)



MDS: slightly stronger bisecting die crack
(Coin from the Scott Mickelson Collection)



LDS: bi-level field at K-10 die crack
(Coin from the Scott Mickelson Collection)



VLDS: heavy die crack at K-7 to K-9
(Coin from the Scott Mickelson Collection)

1842-O
WB-9, Medium Date



Obverse 5



Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

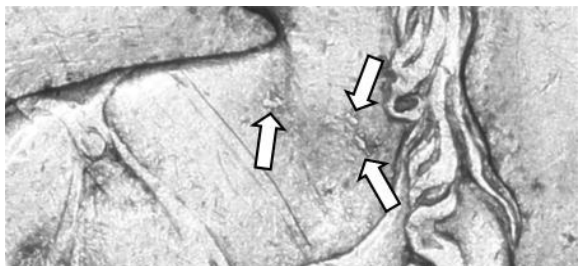
1842-O

WB-10, Medium Date

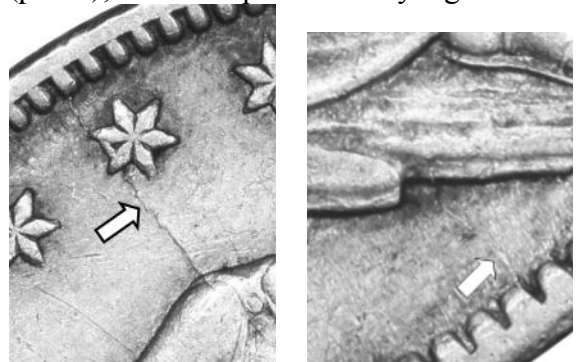
Obverse 6



- Date far left; note diagonal (NW to SE) die crack thru the 2 of the date (photo) seen in all die states



- Rust lumps on Liberty's neck and chest (photo); other lumps on Liberty's gown

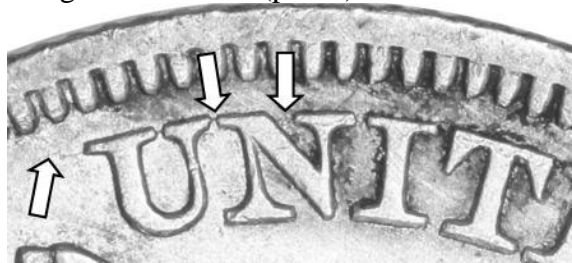


- All die states: die cracks from rim thru star 6 to shoulder (left photo) and from rim at K-5 to rock support (right photo). Other die cracks thru stars 1-2; 3-5; 11-12; and 13 into field

Reverse I



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die crack from rim to left of U(NITED) along top of letters UNIT (photo)

This is the only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .022"

143 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.189"

Rarity - 4

Drapery die state: Full

Foot support: Full

Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: AU53

Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection

Cross reference: WB-102.

Version 4.68

1842-O
WB-10, Medium Date



Obverse 6



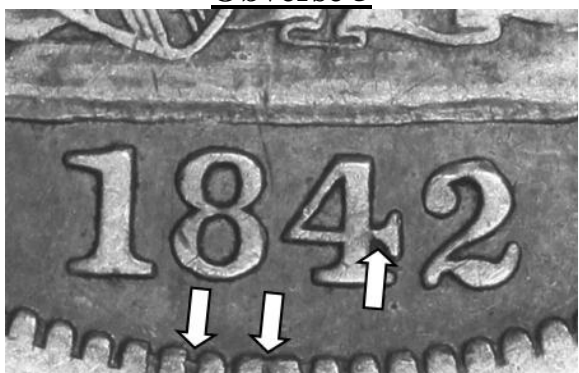
Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



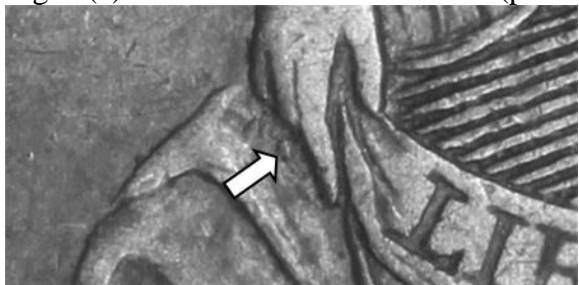
1842-O

WB-11, Medium Date

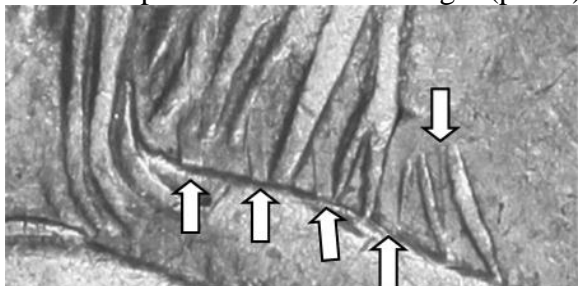
Obverse 5



- Date left slanting down to right; the crossbar of the 4 shows repunching to the north, and errant digits (?) in the dentils below the date (photo)



- Small lump in rock near index finger (photo)

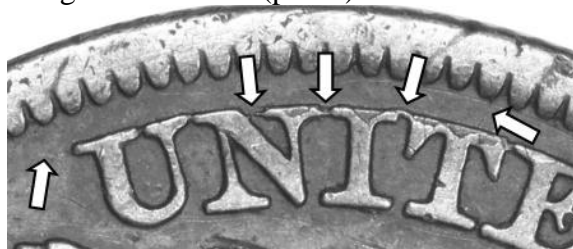


- LDS: clash lines across Liberty's lap (photo) and die crack from K-5 into field and rock support to Liberty's gown. Drapery disconnected from elbow. Rusty die with effects on Liberty's chest and gown.

Reverse I



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- LDS: die crack from rim to left of U(NITED) along top of letters UNIT to rim (photo)
- Clash in lower shield

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .014"	143 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1842-O
WB-11, Medium Date



Obverse 5



Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

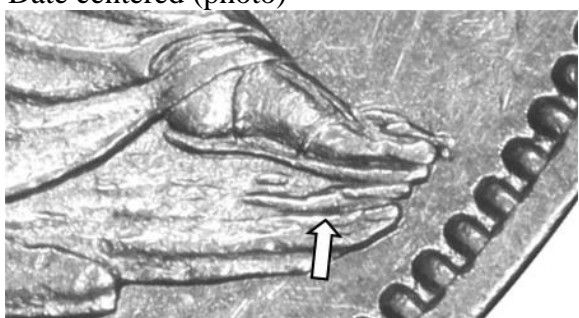
1842-O

WB-12, Medium Date

Obverse 7



- Date centered (photo)



- Reengraved foot support under Liberty's toes (photo)



- Weak die crack from between the dentils to the rock support at K-7 (photo). Another from the dentil to the top of the cap

Reverse J



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- EDS to MDS: die line along the dentils above (STAT)ES; another above (STAT)E(S) (photo)



- Die lines between dentils and (A)MERI(CA) including one diagonal thru the E (photo)
- Die lines thru the dentils around most of the circumference
- LDS: horizontal "V" shaped die crack from (UNITE)D towards S(TATES)

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .022"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.193"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Reengraved	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1842-O
WB-12, Medium Date



Obverse 7



Reverse J

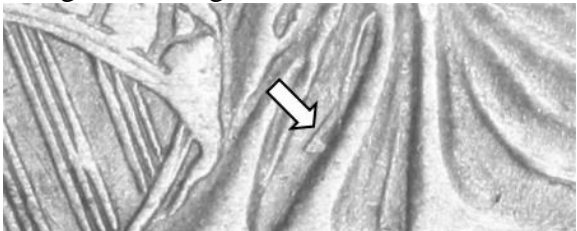
1842-O

WB-13, Medium Date, Errant 4 in Gown

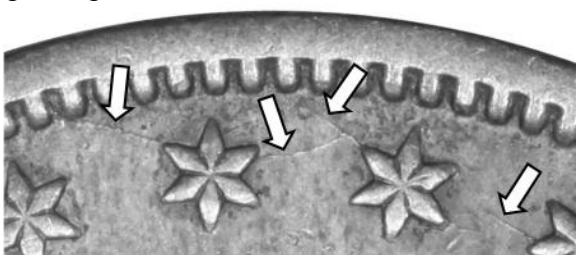
Obverse 8



- Date centered with a horizontal die line in the rock support along Liberty's hemline above the right edge of the 4 (photo). LDS with die crack along base of digits



- Errant 4 in Liberty's gown in the recessed area to the right of the scroll (photo) visible on coins grading as low as G-6

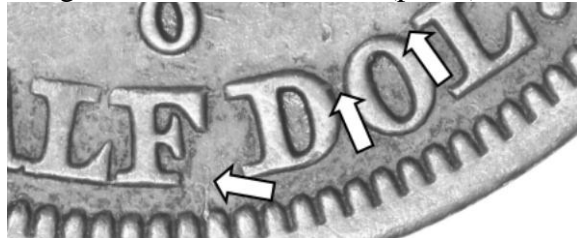


- LDS: die cracks from rim thru stars 2-6 (photo) and others thru 10-12
- Reengraved foot support
- Weakly struck upper Liberty

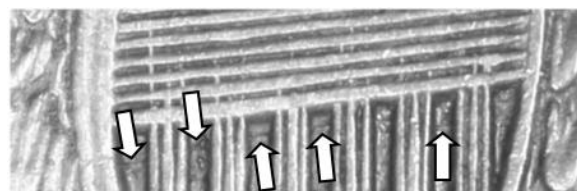
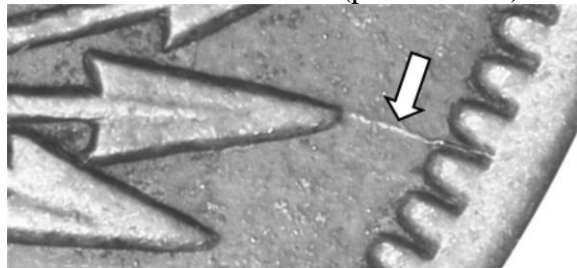
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark tilted left (photo)



- Heavily crack die prominently from rim between and to the (HAL)F and thru HALF DOL (photo above); another from tip of middle arrowhead to rim (photo below)



- LDS: interesting die crack horizontally thru the lower shield (photo)
- Weakly struck feathers on eagle's left leg

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

This is the first use since 1840-O of different collars with a two reed counts and a large diameter.

Date grid: M1.5, .024"	EDS: 145 reeds MDS-LDS: 146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.204"	Rarity - 3
Draperies die state: Full	Foot support: Reengraved	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1842-O

WB-13, Medium Date, Errant 4 in Gown



Obverse 8



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1843-O

This date has a high mintage and a high number of die marriages. Included are a double date, bisecting dies, two major diameter sizes, four reed counts, and many cracked dies. All dies are readily distinguishable by variations in die defects.

Eighteen die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

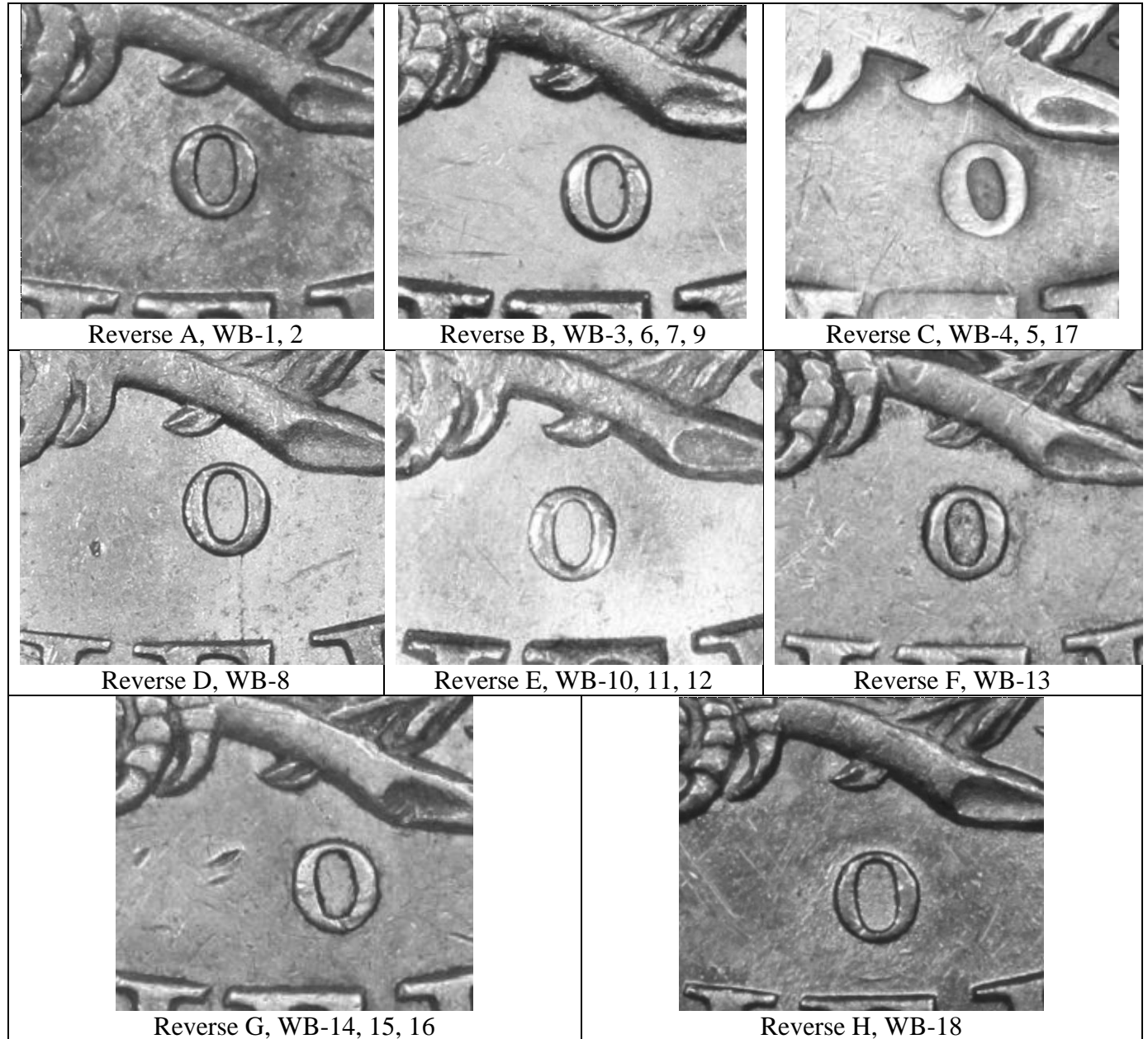
Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
2,268,000	Requested		-	-	4
	Shipped	-	10	15	(146, 147,
	Known	18	10	8	148, 149)

Of the fifteen reverse dies for 1843-O, two were used for 1842 and five were used for 1844.

1843-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
M2 , .020"	WB-5
M2 , .020"	WB-6
M2.5, .015"	WB-13
M2.5, .018"	WB-11
M2.5, .018"	WB-14
M2.5, .022"	WB-16
M2.5, .028"	WB-9
M2.5, .032"	WB-10
M3 , .026"	WB-8
M3.5, .018"	WB-4
M3.5, .027"	WB-2
M3.5, .028"	WB-3
M4.5, .018"	WB-1
M4.5, .026"	WB-7
M4.5, .030"	WB-12
M4.5, .030"	WB-15
R1 , .017"	WB-17
R1 , .018"	WB-18

1843-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions



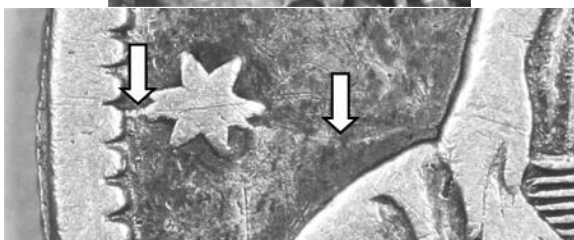
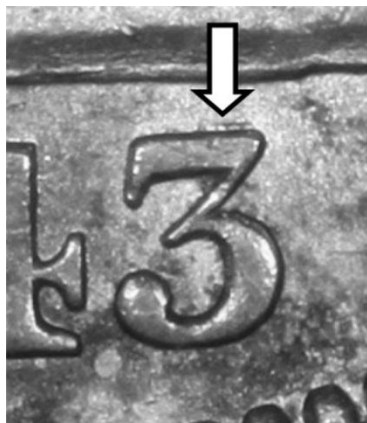
1843-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Weak die crack thru (A)MERC(ICA)	Rust lump on the lower edge of olive leaf #4	Die line from eagle's lower left leg	Die crack in and around denomination	EDS: diagonal file line thru (AM)ERI(CA) LDS: die cracks from dentil thru DO(L)	Wavy die crack above DOL	Die lines between dentils and (STA)TES	Top of vertical shield line B2 connects with B3
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Date right with the 3 repunched south	1	WB-1							
Arching die line in the rock support above the date	2	WB-2	WB-3						
Vertical die crack thru date	3			WB-4					
Rust lumps by dentils and star 9	4		WB-6	WB-5					
Small lump in Liberty's drapery	5		WB-7			WB-12		WB-15	
Diagonal die crack thru Liberty's foot	6		WB-9		WB-8	WB-10			
Date slanting down to the right	7					WB-11			
Date high	8						WB-13	WB-14	
Die crack in rock support by scroll	9							WB-16	
Doubled date	10			WB-17					WB-18

1843-O WB-1, Large O

Obverse 1



- Date right with the 3 repunched south (photos above and below); repunching shows on EDS to MDS coins

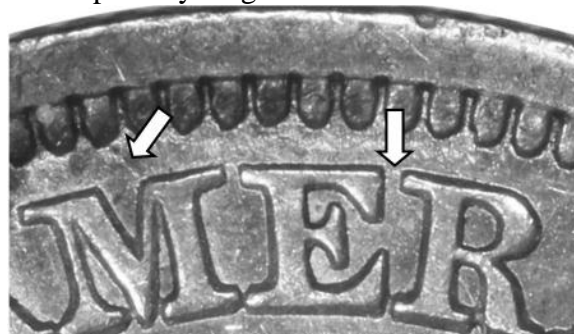


- All die states: die crack from dentil thru star 1 into field to Liberty's left hand (photo)
- LDS: die crack from rim thru star 11
- Many rust lumps on Liberty's gown and in the lower recessed area of the shield

Reverse A



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- EDS: primary diagnostic is mintmark location



- MDS to LDS: weak die crack from dentil to the right upright of the (A)M(ERICA); another along the top of letters (A)MER(ICA) (photo)

This is the only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M4.5, .018"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.215"	Rarity - 4
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Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: MDS: MS62, LDS: VG10	MDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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1843-O
WB-1, Large O



Obverse 1



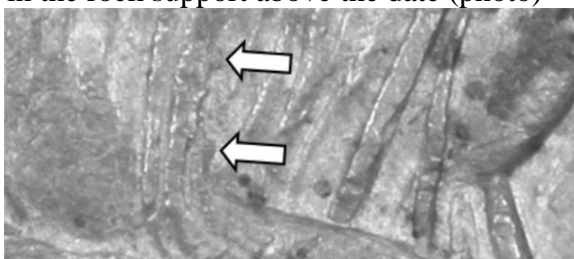
Reverse A

1843-O WB-2, Large O

Obverse 2



- Date centered with a horizontal arching die line in the rock support above the date (photo)



- Two rust lumps on Liberty's stomach to the left of the pole (photo). Other small lumps under the right kneecap.



- LDS: no foot support and half the foot polished off the die (photo)

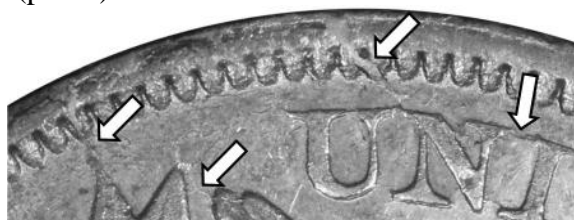
Reverse A



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die crack from dentil to the right upright of the (A)M(ERICA) now in a pre-cud stage; another along the top of letters (A)MER(ICA) (photo)



- LDS: die crack from rim to olive leaves #2, another from rim to (U)N(ITED) and along the letters of UNITED and olive leaves (photo). Other cracks thru most of the legend and denomination.

This is the first use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3.5, .027"	EDS: 146 reeds LDS: 145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Weak to none	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45, LDS: AU55		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1843-O
WB-2, Large O



Obverse 2



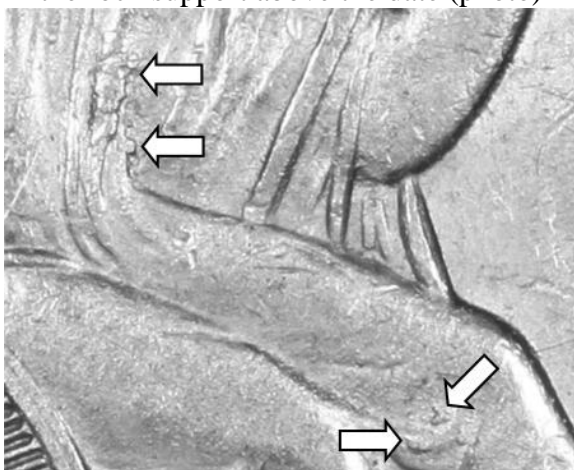
Reverse A (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1843-O WB-3, Large O

Obverse 2



- Date centered with a horizontal arching die line in the rock support above the date (photo)

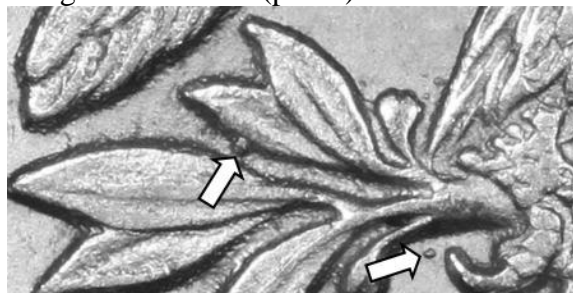


- Two rust lumps on Liberty's stomach to the left of the pole; other small lumps under the right kneecap (photo)

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Very rusty die. Prominent rust lumps on the lower edge of olive leaf #4 and in the field from the tip of the eagle's upper talon (photo). Many other rust lumps throughout the legend, denomination, and eagle.

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3.5, .028"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.204"	Rarity - 5
Draperies die state: Full	Foot support: None	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1843-O
WB-3, Large O



Obverse 2



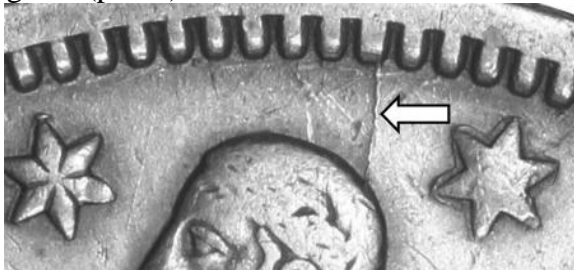
Reverse B

1843-O WB-4, Large O

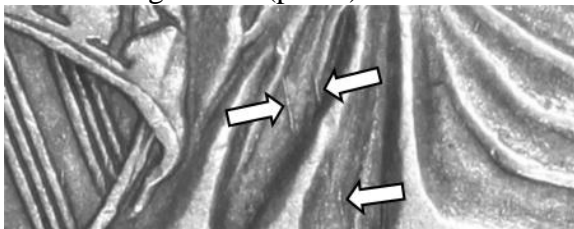
Obverse 3



- Date centered with a vertical die crack from the dentil thru the 8 into the rock support, Liberty's gown (photo) and shield

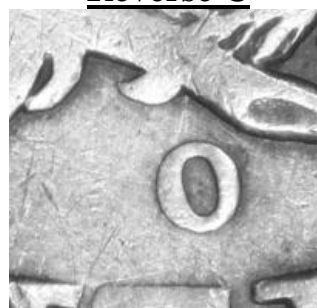


- All die states seen: die crack from dentil to the back of Liberty's head; note unfinished die marks along dentils (photo)



- Vertical die lines in Liberty's gown to the right of the scroll (photo)
- LDS: die crack from Liberty's left hand into the field thru star 5 to dentils

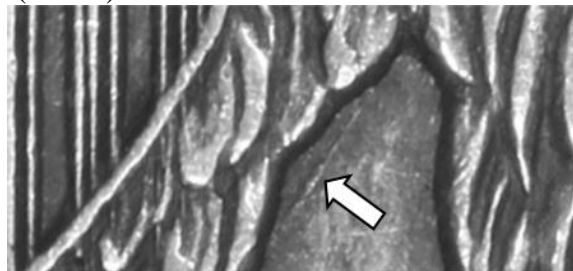
Reverse C



- Large O mintmark tilting to the left (photo)



- All die states: die line from eagle's lower left leg into field (photo). Other die lines between the dentils and most of the denomination, prominently above (ST)AT(ES) and thru (STAT)ES.



- All die states seen on this die marriage: diagonal (SW to NE) die line between the eagle's right chest and right wing (photo)

This is the only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

All examples of this die marriage seen are weakly struck on Liberty's chest and head on the obverse and eagle's left leg and arrow feathers on the reverse. See photos on next page.

Vertical lines between the reeds on the collar.

Date grid: M3.5, .018"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.206"	Rarity - 3
Draperies die state: Full to weak	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse:- Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1843-O
WB-4, Large O**



Obverse 3 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



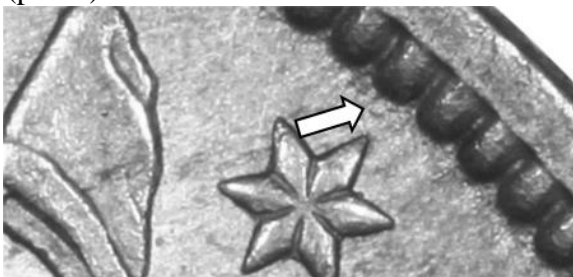
Reverse C

1843-O WB-5, Large O

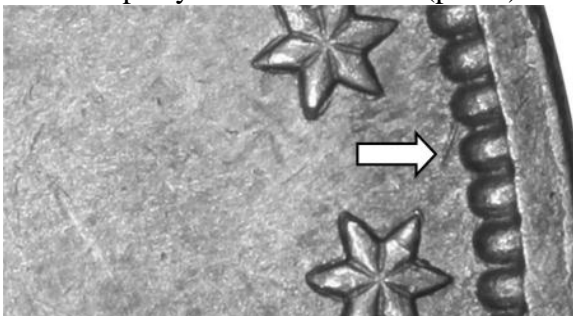
Obverse 4



- Date centered; EDS only: 4 repunched north (photo)



- Rust lumps by dentils and star 9 (photo)

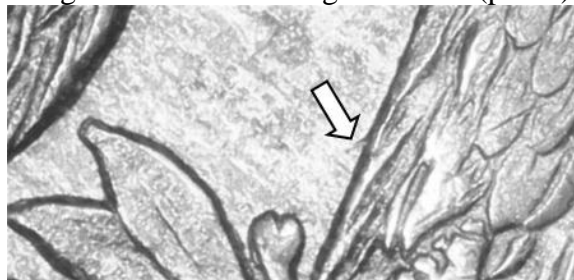


- Die line from the dentils between stars 11-12 (photo)
- LDS: very weak die cracks thru star 8, Liberty's cap, and star 9

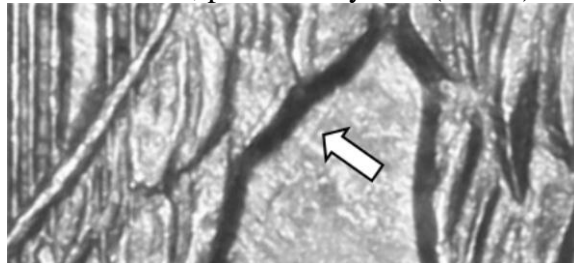
Reverse C



- Large O mintmark tilting to the left (photo)



- Die line from eagle's lower left leg into field now weaker than on WB-4 (photo). Other scattered die lines between the dentils and denomination, prominently thru (STAT)ES.



- Diagonal (SW to NE) die line between the eagle's right chest and right wing now much weaker than on WB-4 (photo)

This is the first use of this obverse die and the second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .020"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.206"	Rarity - 3
Draper die state: Full to weak	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: VF35 MS63		EDS coin from the Dick Osburn Collection Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1843-O
WB-5, Large O



Obverse 4



Reverse C

1843-O WB-6, Large O

Obverse 4



- Date centered (photo); note weak date and lower rock support

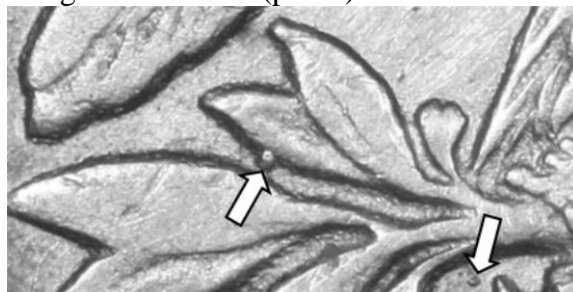


- Weak stars 1-4 (photo), rock support, and foot support

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Very rusty die. Prominent rust lumps on the lower edge of olive leaf #4 and in the field from the tip of the eagle's upper talon (photo). Many other smaller rust lumps throughout the legend, denomination, and eagle.

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .020"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.202"	Rarity - 6
Draperies die state: Full	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Dick Osburn Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1843-O
WB-6, Large O



Obverse 4



Reverse B

1843-O WB-7, Large O

Obverse 5



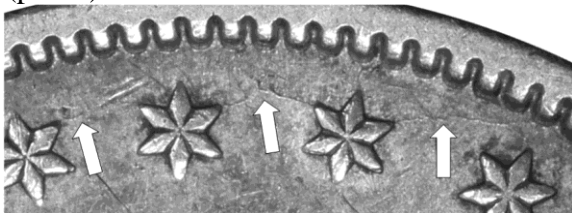
- Date right (photo); VEDS and high grade coins show very faint repunching in the lower loop of the 8.



- Small lump in Liberty's drapery below the elbow (photo)



- LDS: die crack from rim at K-7 into rock (photo)

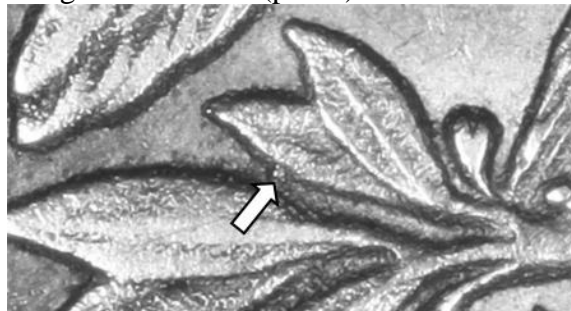


- LDS: die crack thru or around stars 4-7 (photo)

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Very rusty die. Prominent rust lumps on the lower edge of olive leaf #4 (photo). The lump in the field from the tip of the eagle's upper talon seen on previous uses of this die is polished away on LDS coins but still visible on EDS coins. Many other smaller rust lumps throughout the legend, denomination, and eagle.

This is the first use of this obverse die and third use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M4.5, .026"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.211"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Weak to none	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1843-O
WB-7, Large O**



Obverse 5 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



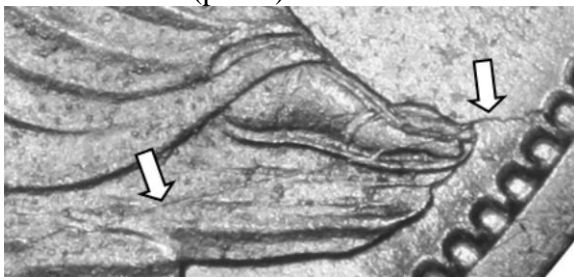
Reverse B

1843-O WB-8, Large O

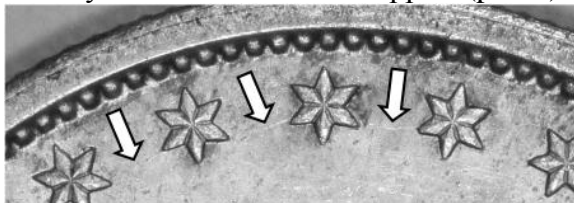
Obverse 6



- Date centered (photo)



- Diagonal die crack from the dentil at K-4 thru Liberty's foot into the rock support (photo)

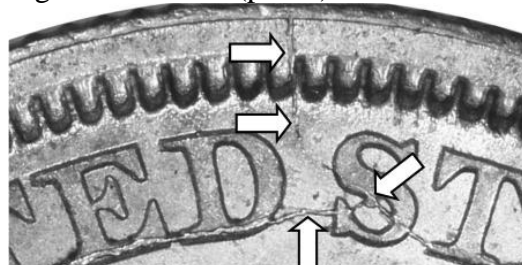


- LDS: die crack from rock thru stars 1-5 (photo); another from rim at K-7 to lower left rock support.
- Heavily rusted die with rust lumps throughout Liberty

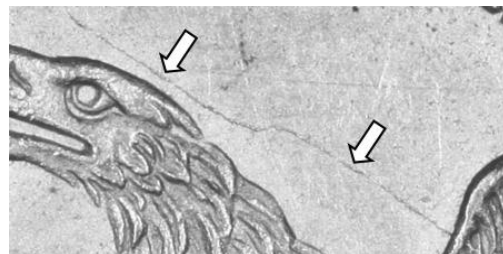
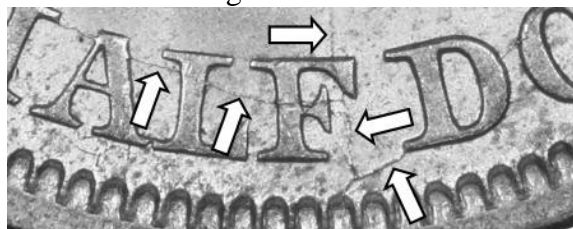
Reverse D



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Heavily cracked die; prominently thru UNITED STATES (photo), vertically thru mintmark photo above), and around and thru the denomination (photo below). Other cracks thru the entire legend.



- Die crack from right wing into field above the eagle's head (photo)

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

This die marriage has one of the weakest strikes of the entire series. All examples seen; weakly struck on Liberty's chest and the eagle's left leg. See photos on next page.

Date grid: M3, .026"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.217"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS63		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1843-O
WB-8, Large O



Obverse 6 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



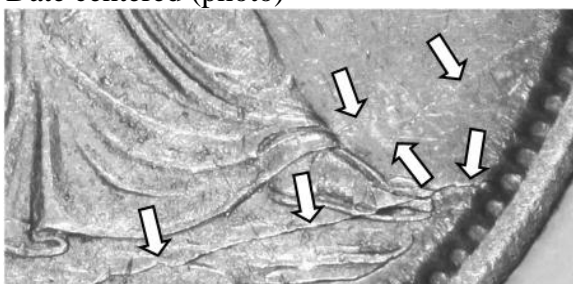
Reverse D (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1843-O WB-9, Large O

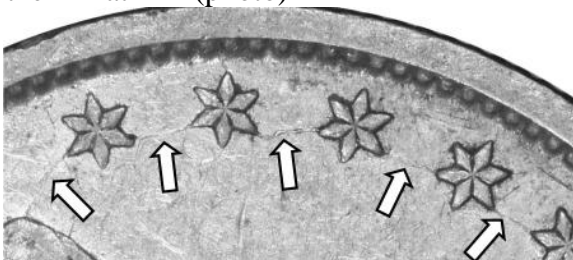
Obverse 6



- Date centered (photo)



- Diagonal die crack from the dentil at K-4 thru Liberty's foot into the rock support; LDS: additional die cracks from Liberty's instep to the rim at K-4 (photo)

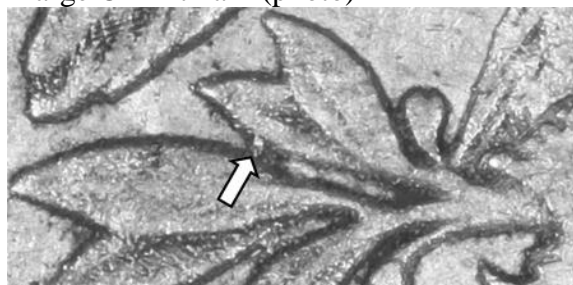


- LDS: die crack from rock thru stars 1-5 (photo); another from rim at K-7 to lower left rock support.
- Heavily rusted die with rust lumps throughout Liberty

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Very rusty die. Prominent rust lump on the lower edge of olive leaf #4 (photo). The lump in the field from the tip of the eagle's upper talon seen on previous uses of this die is now polished away. Many other smaller rust lumps throughout the legend, denomination, and eagle as exemplified in the above photo on the olive leaves and wingtip.
- LDS: rim cud at K-1

This is the second use of this obverse die and fourth and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .028"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.207"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Weak	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: AU55		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1843-O
WB-9, Large O



Obverse 6 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



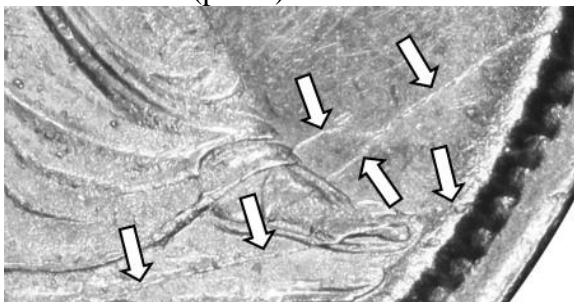
Reverse B

1843-O WB-10, Large O

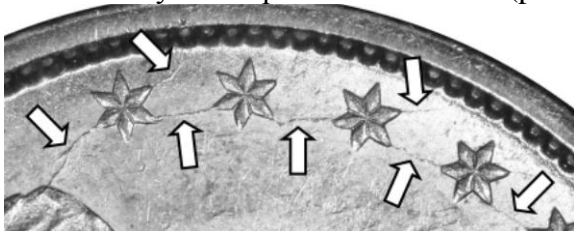
Obverse 6



- Date centered (photo)



- Diagonal die crack from the dentil at K-4 thru Liberty's foot into the rock support and into Liberty's lower gown; additional die cracks from Liberty's instep to the rim at K-4 (photo)

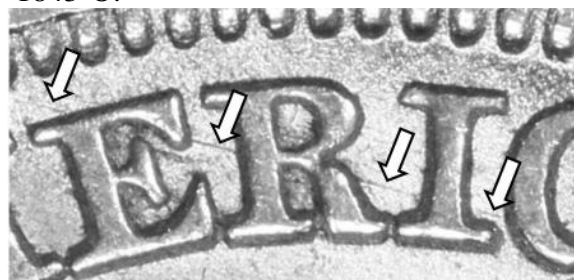


- Die crack from rock thru stars 1-5 (photo) more extensive than on WB-9; another from rim at K-7 to lower left rock support. LDS: die crack diagonally thru star 12.
- Heavily rusted die with rust lumps throughout Liberty

Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo). This mintmark location is further to the left than any other 1843-O.



- This die marriage only: diagonal die line thru (AM)ERI(CA) (photo)
- Rusty die; rust lumps visible on eagle and in the field between the denomination and the dentils

This is the third and final use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .032"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.211"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU58		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1843-O
WB-10, Large O**



Obverse 6 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



Reverse E

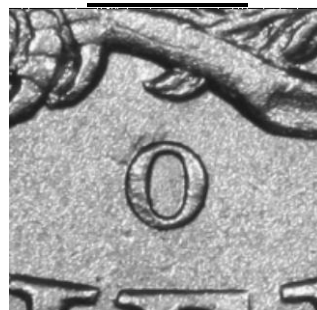
1843-O WB-11, Large O

Obverse 7

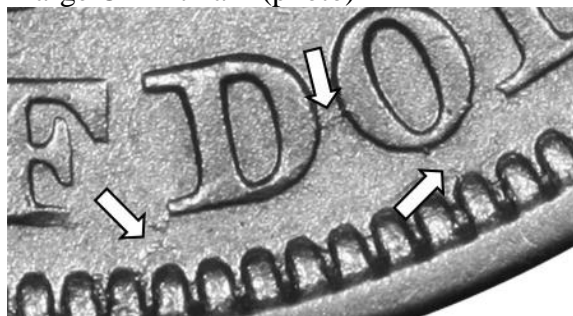


- Date centered and slanting down to the right (photo)
- LDS: heavy clash marks across Liberty's lap on both sides of the pole

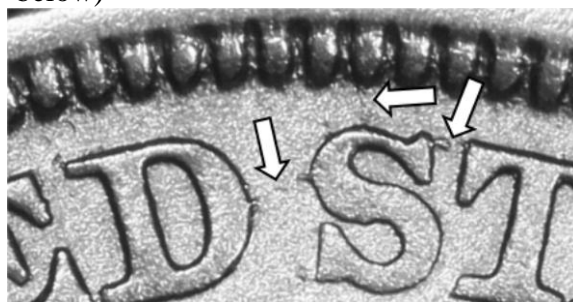
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracks from dentil thru DO(L) to dentil; (photo); another between (UNITE)D ST(ATES) to dentil above S(TATES) (photo below)



- Another die crack from the tip of the middle arrow head to the dentil.
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the only use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .018"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.211"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1843-O
WB-11, Large O



Obverse 7



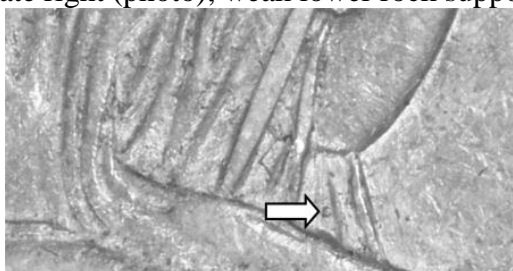
Reverse E (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1843-O WB-12, Large O

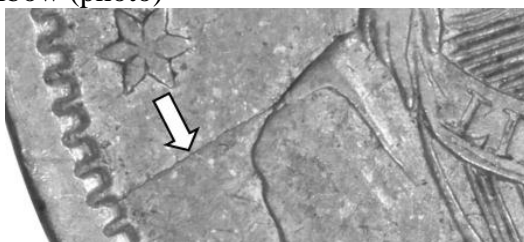
Obverse 5



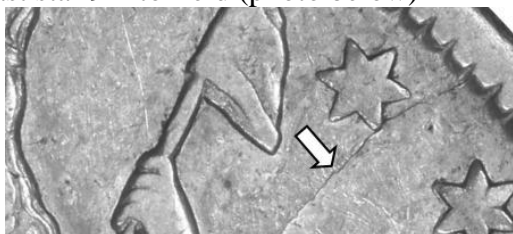
- Date right (photo); weak lower rock support



- Small lump in Liberty's drapery below the elbow (photo)



- Bisecting obverse die crack: die crack from rim at K-7 into rock (photo above) and from rim past star 9 into field (photo below)

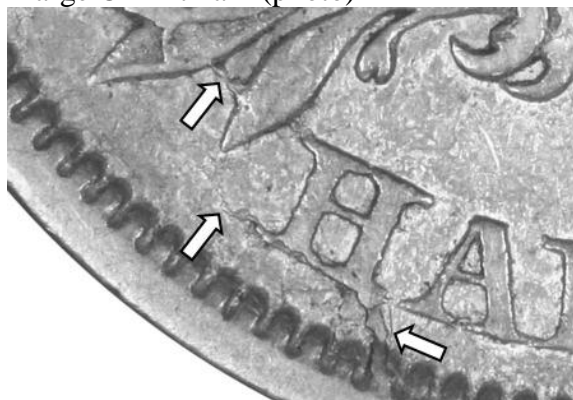


- Other die cracks thru stars 3-6

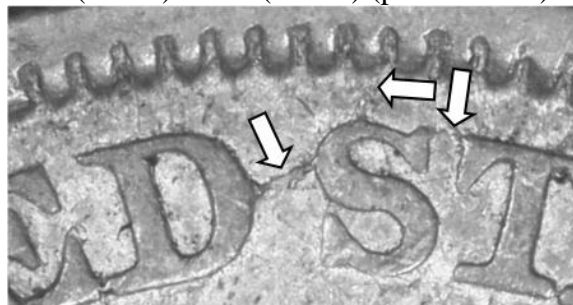
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracking extensively; prominently thru the lower leaves and HA(LF) (photo above); others thru (UNIT)ED ST(ATES) (photo below)



- Other die crack thru the arrowheads and from the middle arrowhead to the dentil at K-4
- Clash in lower right shield

This is the second use of this obverse die and third and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M4.5, .030"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: None	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Weak	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1843-O
WB-12, Large O**



Obverse 5 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



Reverse E (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1843-O WB-13, Large O

Obverse 8



- Date high (photo)
- Rusty die with weak rust lumps on Liberty

Reverse F



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Wavy die crack from dentil below D(OL) thru D(OL) into field thru arrow heads to dentil at K-4 (photo); another crack from the dentil to (S)T(ATES) and from the dentil to the (U)N(ITED).

This is the only 1843-O with a small diameter; there are possibly two different collars used on this die marriage each with slightly different small diameters.

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .015"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.186"	Rarity - 4
Draperies die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1843-O
WB-13, Large O



Obverse 8



Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

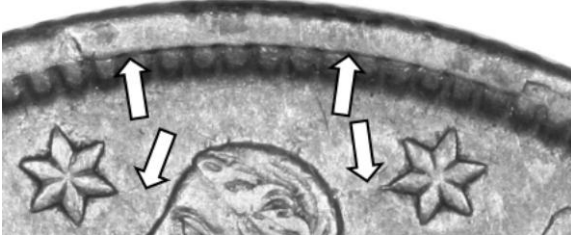
1843-O

WB-14, Large O, Repunched Mintmark

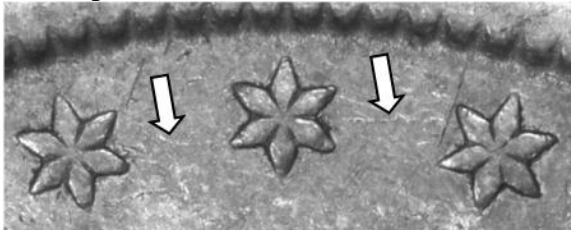
Obverse 8



- Date high (photo); LDS: date weak as above



- Die crack from star 7 thru top of head to star 8; high grade coins only: rim cud above same area (photo)



- Other die cracks between stars 1-2, 3-4 and 8-12 (stars 8-10 in photo)
- Rusty die with weak rust lumps on Liberty

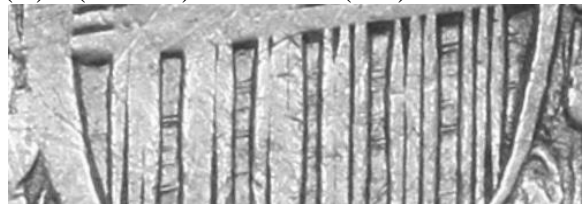
Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (left photo); very rare EDS with the mintmark repunched north (right photo)



- EDS to MDS: die lines between dentils and (STA)TES (photo); other diagonal lines thru (A)M(ERICA) and below (DO)L



- EDS to MDS: horizontal die lines in lower shield (photo)



- LDS: rim cud above (STA)TE(S) (photo)

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .018"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	EDS: Rarity - 6 Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Weak to None	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse: - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: XF45		EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1843-O

WB-14, Large O, Repunched Mintmark



Obverse 8 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



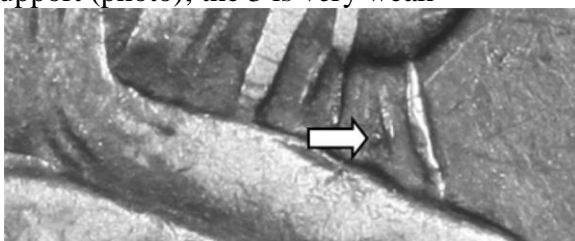
Reverse G

1843-O WB-15, Large O

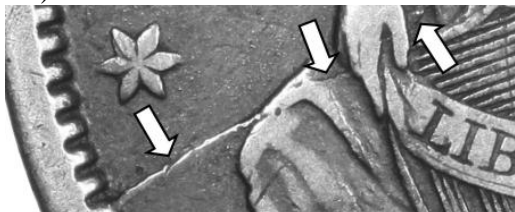
Obverse 5



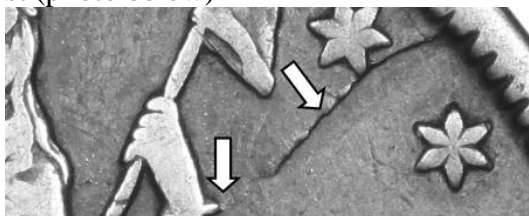
- Date right; weak date and lower edge of the rock support (photo); the 3 is very weak



- Small lump in Liberty's drapery below the elbow (photo)



- Bisecting obverse die crack: die crack from rim at K-7 into rock and Liberty's gown (photo above) and from rim past star 9 into field to Liberty's right wrist (photo below)

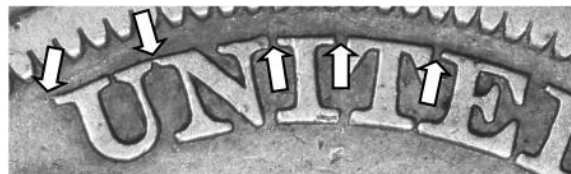


- Other die cracks thru stars 3-6

Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- Die lines between the dentils and (STA)TES and in the lower shield seen on WB-14 now polished off the die and not visible



- LDS: very weak die crack along the top of letters UNITE(D)

This is the third and final use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

With the very weak date, a major grading service misattributed at least one example of this die marriage as an 1845-O.

Date grid: M4.5, .030"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.215"	Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Weak	Foot support: None	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: VF35		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1843-O
WB-15, Large O**



Obverse 5 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



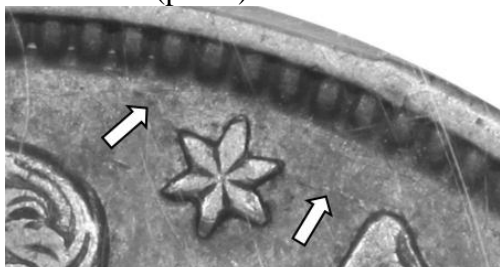
Reverse G

1843-O WB-16, Large O

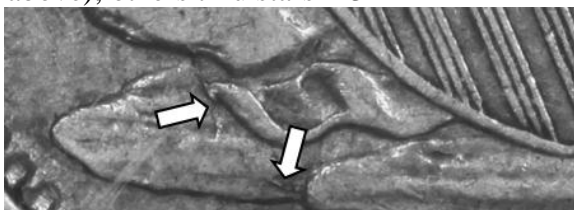
Obverse 9



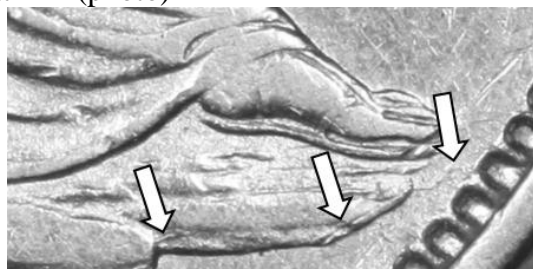
- Date centered (photo)



- Die crack from dentil thru star 8 to cap (photo above); others thru stars 2-3



- Die crack from rock support to dentil to dentil at K-4 (photo)

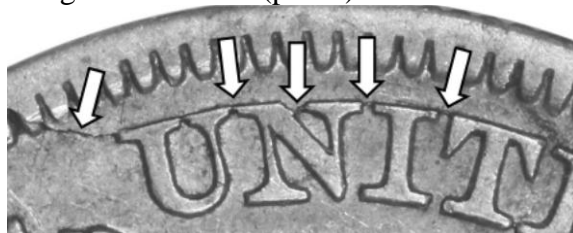


- Die crack thru rock support to dentil (photo)
- LDS: die crack along base of date

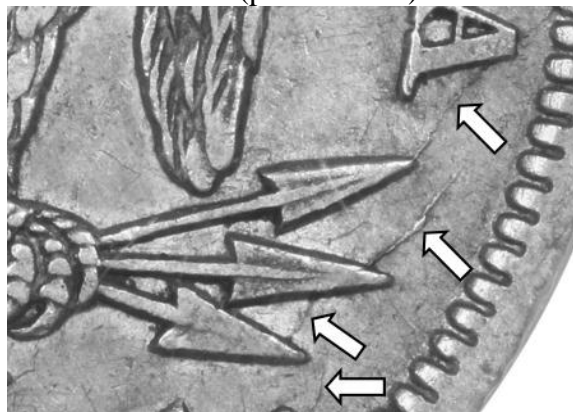
Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracks: prominently from dentils left of legend along top of UNITE(D) (photo); others thru arrow heads (photo below)



- Other die cracks along top of letters DOL and from dentil to (HAL)F, dentil thru (AME)R(ICA), and thru most of the legend

This is the only use of this obverse die and third and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .022"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.209"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCI XF45 and AU50		Coins from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1843-O
WB-16, Large O



Obverse 9



Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

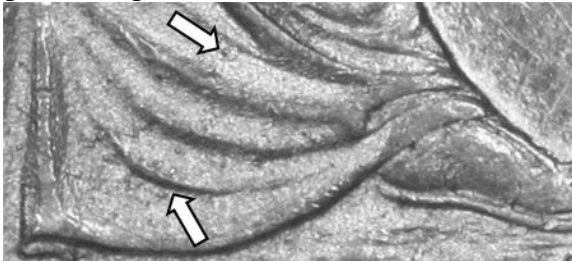
1843-O

WB-17, Large O, Doubled Date

Obverse 10



- Date far right, high, and obliquely double punched (photo)

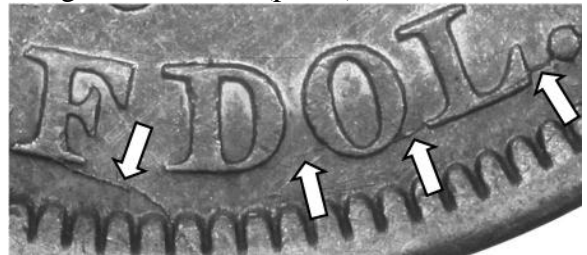


- Scattered rust lumps in Liberty's gown to the left of the foot (photo)
- High grade coins only: rim cuds from K-10 thru K-1
- Very weak die crack thru star 7 thru cap to star 8

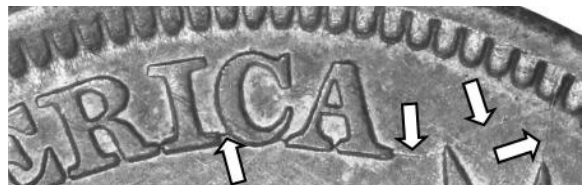
Reverse C



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracks: prominently thru denomination (photo above) and thru (AMER)ICA to arrow head to dentil (photo below). Others thru arrow heads



This is the first use of this obverse die and third and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: R1, .017"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS61		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1843-O
WB-17, Large O, Doubled Date



Obverse 10



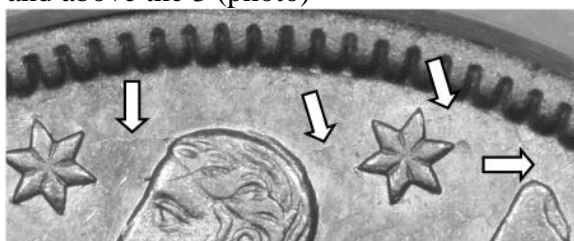
Reverse C (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1843-O WB-18, Large O

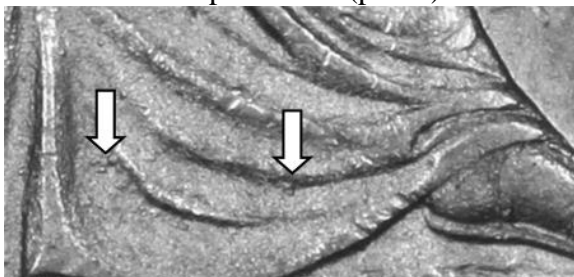
Obverse 10



- Date far right with remnants of the obliquely punched date visible below the serif of the 1 and above the 3 (photo)



- Die crack thru star 7 thru top of head to star 8; another from cap to dentil (photo)

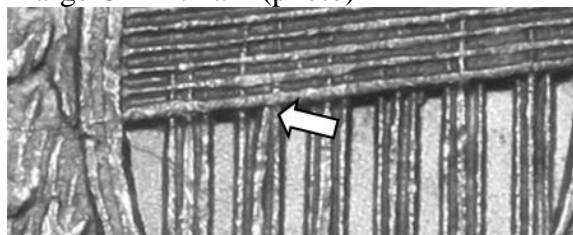


- Scattered rust lumps in Liberty's gown to the left of the right foot (photo)
- LDS: rim cud above star 2

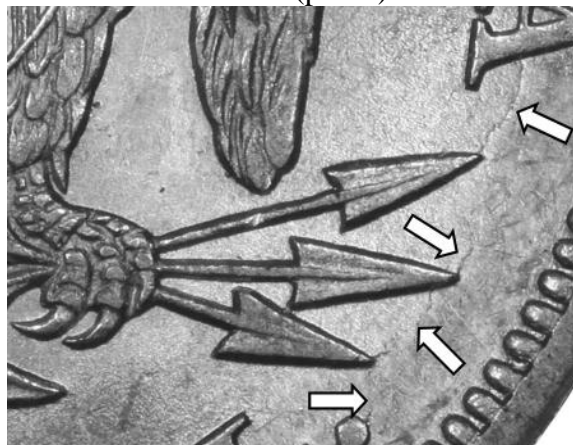
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- The top of vertical shield line B2 connects with B3 at the junction with the lowest horizontal shield line (photo)



- Die cracks prominently thru arrow heads (photo) and thru denomination
- This reverse die is transitional with 1844-O (reverse F).

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die in 1843.

Date grid: R1, .018"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 3
Draperly die state: Full	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS AU55		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

**1843-O
WB-18, Large O**



Obverse 10



Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O

With slightly over two million 1844-O half dollars minted, this date has plenty of interesting varieties to attract the dedicated collector. Included are repunched dates including the popular dramatically doubled date, four different reed counts, heavily cracked dies, a center obverse “dot,” two mintmark sizes, reengraved foot supports, and various die lines and gouges. All dies can be easily distinguished using the notes and photographs contained in the following pages.

Twenty-two die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
2,005,000	Requested		-	-	4
	Shipped	-	12	12	(146, 147,
	Known	22	10	14	148, 149)

An additional five unused reverse dies were on hand from 1843.

Dished date. Most dates have what is called a “dished 8,” where the center cross section of the date is weak. Most likely this effect was caused by a defective date punch, whether the center of the date punch was unevenly prepared or the digits on the working dies were clogged with grease or minting residue. In any case, this “dished 8” effect is commonly seen on most dates in 1844.



“Fat” 1 in date. One obverse die (#5) for die marriages WB-11, 12, 13, 14 has a date with a “fat” lower upright on the 1. (Compare the photos below) This is no doubt a characteristic of the date logo punch used to impress the date into the working die. The “fat 1” description was first coined by Dick Osburn.



Normal 1

















“Fat” 1

Defective obverse dies. In a letter dated November 2, 1844 from the Mint in Philadelphia to the New Orleans Branch Mint, R.M. Patterson said to J.M. Kennedy: “...*The Half Dollar dies are in progress. They have been somewhat delayed by an accident in impressing the dates, with the punches.*” Furthermore, three 1844 dated obverse dies were shipped to New Orleans, one each on November 5th, 6th, and 7th. Perhaps the “accident” referred to in the letter of November 2nd were the dies shipped a few days later and are now what we call the repunched dates including the dramatically doubled date.

1844-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
L5.5, .016"	WB-12
L5.5, .016"	WB-11
L5.5, .019"	WB-13
L5.5, .020"	WB-14
M1.5, .019"	WB-19
M1.5, .019"	WB-20
M1.5, .024"	WB-1
M1.5, .025"	WB-5
M2.5, .012"	WB-17
M2.5, .012"	WB-18
M2.5, .014"	WB-22
M2.5, .018"	WB-21
M2.5, .019"	WB-6
M2.5, .020"	WB-15
M2.5, .020"	WB-16
M2.5, .021"	WB-8
M2.5, .022"	WB-7
M2.5, .022"	WB-9
M2.5, .022"	WB-10
M3 , .016"	WB-3
M3 , .018"	WB-4
M3.5, .016"	WB-2

1844-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions

 <p>Reverse A, WB-1, 3</p>	 <p>Reverse B, WB-2</p>	 <p>Reverse C, WB-4, 5</p>
 <p>Reverse D, WB-6</p>	 <p>Reverse E, WB-7</p>	 <p>Reverse F, WB-8</p>
 <p>Reverse G, WB-9, 11</p>	 <p>Reverse H, WB-10, 13, 15</p>	 <p>Reverse I, WB-12, 21</p>
 <p>Reverse J, WB-14, 16</p>	 <p>Reverse K, WB-17</p>	 <p>Reverse L, WB-18, 19</p>
 <p>Reverse M, WB-20</p>		 <p>Reverse N, WB-22</p>

1844-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Repunched mintmark die crack arching thru (S)TA(TES)	Scattered die lines in the lower shield	Vertical die gouge from rim at K-5	Parallel die lines thru STATES OF	Die crack from OF to the dentils above A(MERICA)	Top of vertical shield line B2 connects with B3	Die lines thru AM(ERICA)	Mintmark at right and tilting to the left
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Small rust lumps on Liberty	1	WB-1							
Center dot	2	WB-3	WB-2	WB-4					
Die crack from dentil at K-7 to rock	3			WB-5					
Die line from dentil to rock support	4				WB-6	WB-7	WB-8	WB-9	WB-10
Reengraved foot support	5							WB-11	WB-13

1844-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Mintmark at right and tilting to the left	Parallel die lines thru (A)MER(ICA)	Mintmark to far right	Mintmark with vertical die crack thru the mintmark	File line from the dentil above (STA)T(ES)	Cracked die prominently thru UNITED STATES	Medium O mintmark
		H	I	J	K	L	M	N
Reengraved foot support	5	WB-13	WB-12	WB-14				
Repunched second 4	6	WB-15		WB-16				
Die lines on Liberty's calf	7				WB-17	WB-18		
Small lump on the drapery	8					WB-19	WB-20	
Die line from dentils to star 10	9		WB-21					
Dramatically doubled date	10							WB-22

1844-O

WB-1, Large O, Repunched Mintmark

Obverse 1



- Date centered (photo)
- Small rust lumps on Liberty

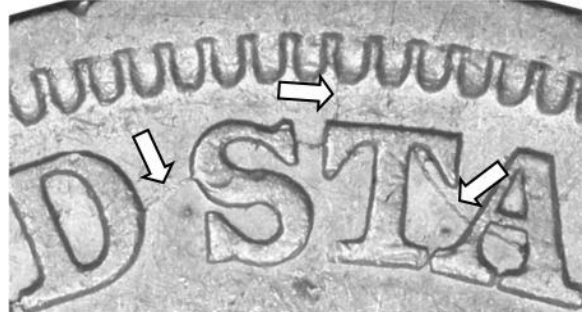


- LDS in high grade only: rim cud above star 9 (photo)
- LDS: weak die clash marks across Liberty's lap

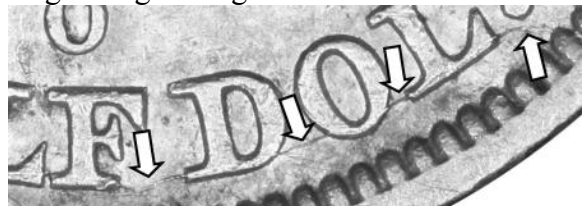
Reverse A



- Large O mintmark low and left (left photo). In the rare EDS; this reverse die has a repunched mintmark (right photo) which was later polished off the die.



- LDS: prominent die cracks arching thru (S)TA(TES) (photo above), along base of denomination to dentil below (photo below) and from dentil thru (AM)E(RICA) to the eagle's right wing



This is the only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .024"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	EDS: Rarity - 6 LDS: Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF40 LDS: AU50		EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-106.		Version 4.68	

1844-O

WB-1, Large O, Repunched Mintmark



Obverse 1



Reverse A (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

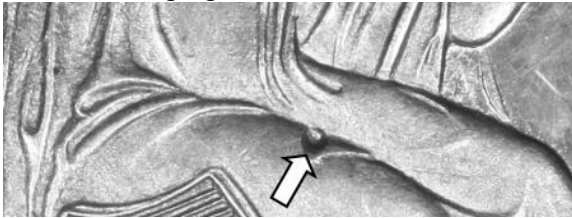
1844-O

WB-2, Large O, Center Dot Obverse

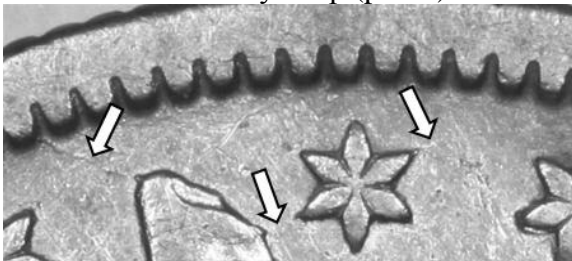
Obverse 2



- Date right with 44 repunched north (photo) visible on high grade coins



- Center dot in Liberty's lap (photo)



- LDS on the remarriage: die crack from dentil near star 8 thru the cap to star 9 (photo); another weak crack thru stars 11-13
- Vertical die line in the recessed area of the shield thru (LIB)ER(TY).
- LDS: most stars weakly struck

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- EDS: diagonal die lines thru and beneath DOLL (photo)



- All die states: many scattered die lines in lower shield (photo)

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die. This die marriage has a remarriage; see next page for details.

At least one high grade EDS example seen (the plate coin) is very highly proof-like.

Date grid: M3.5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.213"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: MS62 LDS: XF40		EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1844-O

WB-2 and WB-2R Remarriage Large O, Center Dot Obverse

Based on analysis of multiple WB-2 coins, it is obvious that this die marriage has a remarriage of the obverse 2 and reverse B dies. Die marriage WB-3 (obverse 2, reverse A) was struck between the WB-2 first marriage and the WB-2R remarriage. The key identifier for the remarriage is the die crack from the dentil near star 8 thru the cap to star 9 to dentil. In the first marriage of WB-2, this obverse die is uncracked; on WB-3 with the same obverse, this die is faintly cracked thru stars 12-13. This last die crack is advanced to stars 11-13 on WB-3 and, furthermore, has the additional die crack thru the cap on WB-2R.

**WB-2
First marriage**



**WB-2R
Remarriage**



1844-O
WB-2, Large O, Center Dot Obverse



Obverse 2



Reverse B

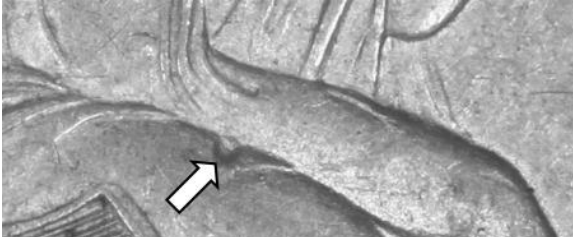
1844-O

WB-3, Large O, Center Dot Obverse

Obverse 2



- Date right (photo) with 44 repunched north visible on high grade coins

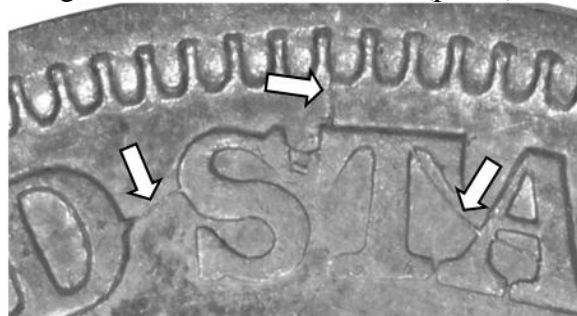


- Center dot in Liberty's lap (photo)
- Most stars are weakly struck.
- Light rust lumps on Liberty

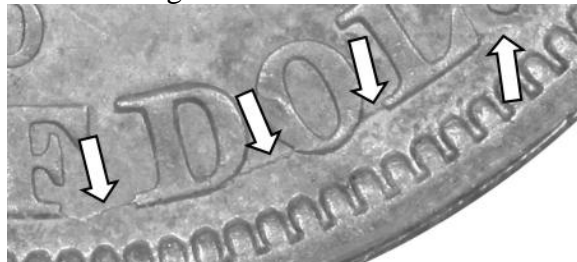
Reverse A



- Large O mintmark low and left (photo)



- Advanced die cracks arching thru (S)TA(TES) (photo above), along base of denomination to dentil below (photo below), from dentil thru (AM)E(RICA) into the eagle's right wing, thru the entire legend and denomination



- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the second use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-3, Large O, Center Dot Obverse



Obverse 2



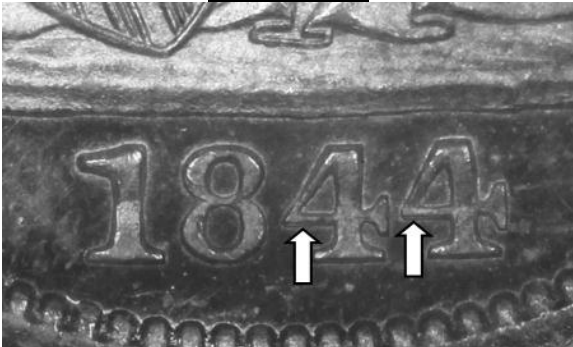
Reverse A (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



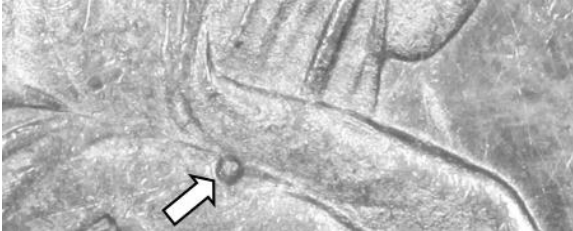
1844-O

WB-4, Large O, Center Dot Obverse

Obverse 2



- Date right with 44 repunched north (photo) visible on high grade coins



- Center dot in Liberty's lap (photo)

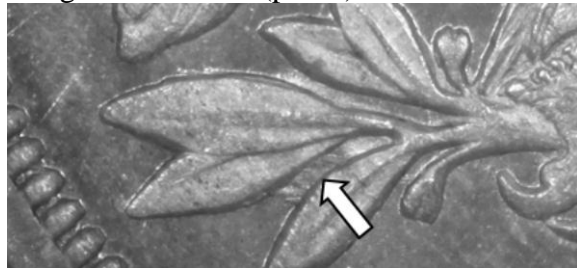


- Die crack from dentil thru cap to star 9 and Liberty's head to star 8 (photo); other cracks thru stars 11-13 to rim and, in LDS, from Liberty's lips to left shoulder
- Most stars are weakly struck.
- Light rust lumps on Liberty
- High grade coins only: small rim cuds from K-7 to K-10

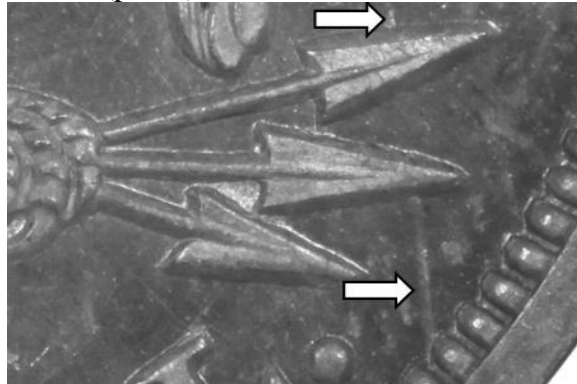
Reverse C



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Horizontal die gouges thru lower three olive leaves (photo)



- Vertical die gouge from rim at K-5 to middle arrowhead then out the upper arrow head

This is the third and final use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3, .018"	Unknown reeds	Typical diameter = Unknown"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: Pitman NGC MS63		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-4, Large O, Center Dot Obverse



Obverse 2



Reverse C

1844-O WB-5, Large O

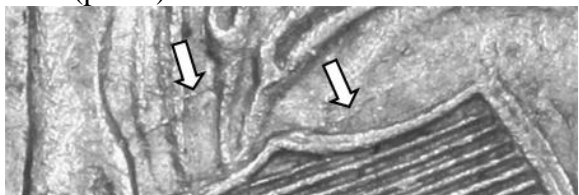
Obverse 3



- Date centered (photo)



- MDS to LDS: die crack from dentil at K-7 to rock (photo)



- LDS: die crack above shield on Liberty's gown and left thigh (photo) and a very weak die crack along the base of the date

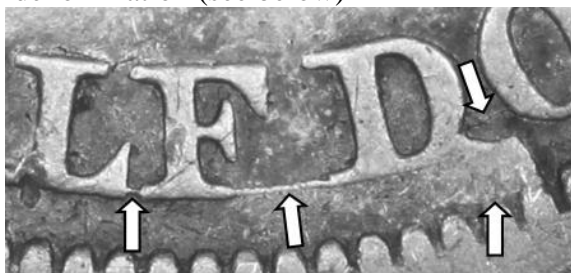
Reverse C



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- EDS only: vertical die gouge from rim at K-5 to middle arrowhead then out the upper arrowhead as seen on WB-4



- Die cracks prominently thru legend at and around (UNITE)D ST(ATES) (photo), (STA)TES to rim, and along the base of the denomination (see below)



- Die crack along base of denomination later forming a cud in a rare LDS (photo)

This is the only use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .025"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.214"	Rarity - 2
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Weak to none	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coins depicted: MS60, XF45, F12		Coins from the Randy Wiley, Bill Bugert, and Dick Osburn Collections	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-5, Large O



Obverse 3



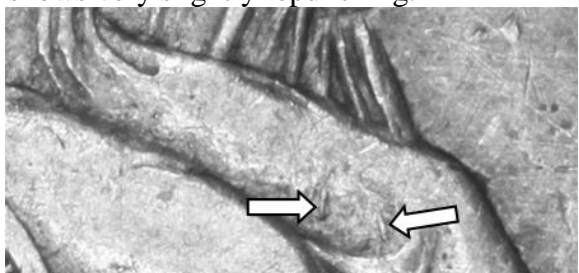
Reverse C (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-6, Large O

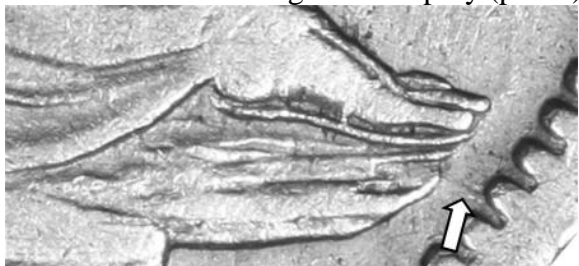
Obverse 4



- Date centered (photo). The top of the second 4 shows very slightly repunching.



- Die lines on Liberty's right knee that are extensions of the reengraved drapery (photo)



- Die line from dentil to rock support below the foot (photo). Note the reengraved foot support below Liberty's foot.
- Vertical file lines between stars 10 and the adjacent dentils.

Reverse D



- Large O mintmark tilting left (photo)



- Parallel die lines thru STATES OF (photo above) and (A)MER(ICA); LDS: rare cud above (STAT)ES (photo below)



- All die states: heavy die line from dentil to (AMERI)C(A) (photo)
- LDS: die cracks around the entire legend and denomination

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .019"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 3
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Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45, LDS: XF40	Coins from the Bill Bugert Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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1844-O
WB-6, Large O



Obverse 4



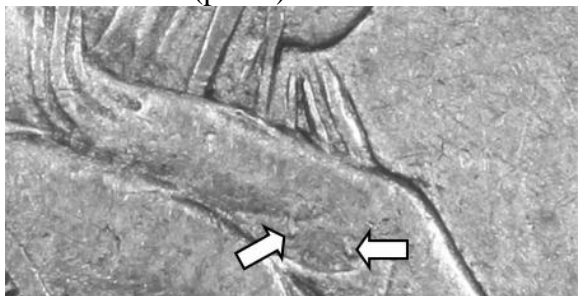
Reverse D (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-7, Large O

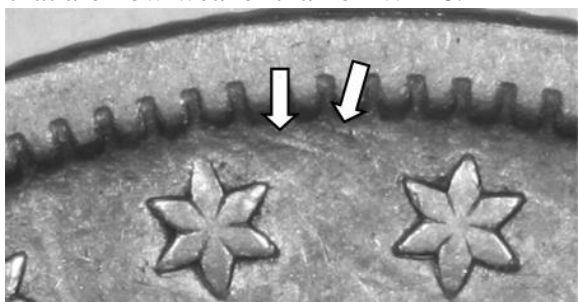
Obverse 4



- Date centered (photo)



- Die lines on Liberty's right knee that are extensions of the reengraved drapery (photo) that are now weaker than on WB-6.

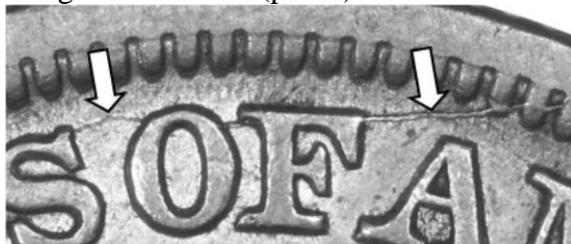


- Two die lines from dentils between stars 10-11 (photo) that are now weaker than on WB-6
- The die line from the dentil to rock support below the foot seen on WB-6 is now very weak.

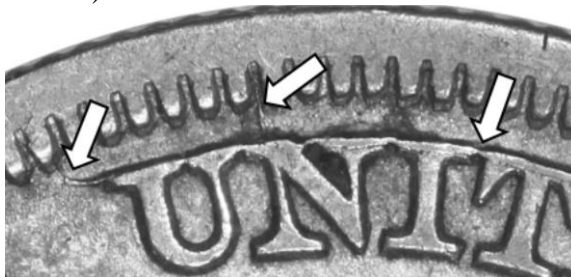
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracks around most of the legend; prominently from OF to the dentils above A(MERICA) (photo); another above UNIT(ED) to rim above U and N (photo below)



- Another die crack below HALF (photo)

This is the second use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .022"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.220"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-7, Large O



Obverse 4



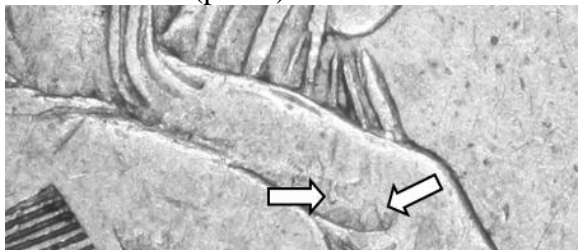
Reverse E (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-8, Large O

Obverse 4



- Date centered (photo)

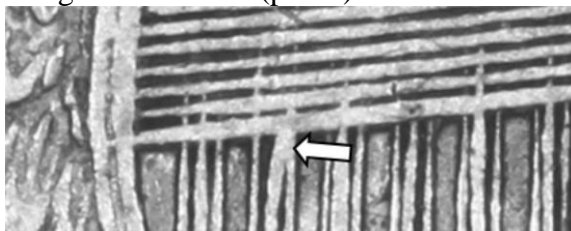


- Die lines on Liberty's right knee that are extensions of the reengraved drapery (photo) that are now weaker than on WB-7.
- The two die lines from dentils between stars 10-11 seen on WB-7 are very weak here.

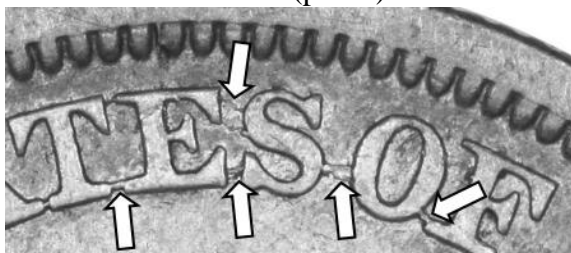
Reverse F



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- The top of vertical shield line B2 connects with B3 at the junction with the lowest horizontal shield line (photo)



- Die cracks thru entire legend and denomination: prominently thru arrow heads, denomination, and (STA)TES OF (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1843-O (reverse H).

This is the third use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .021"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-8, Large O



Obverse 4



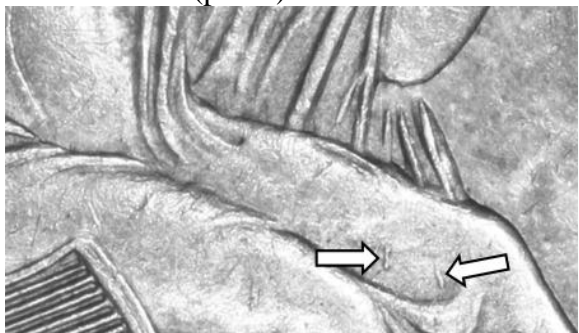
Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-9, Large O

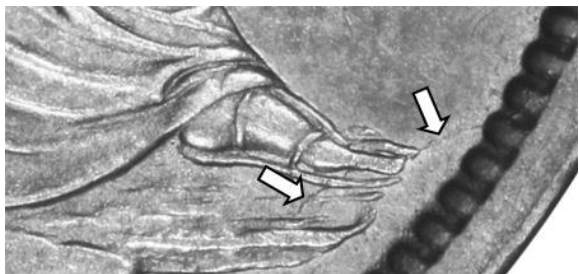
Obverse 4



- Date centered (photo)



- Die lines on Liberty's right knee that are extensions of the reengraved drapery (photo) that are now weaker than on WB-8.

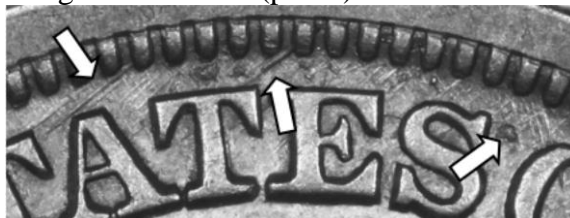


- Die cracks: prominently thru rock support and Liberty's foot to the dentil at K-5; others thru stars 1-7 and 9-12

Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Scattered die lines, rust lumps and die cracks thru the legend and denomination; prominently above (UNIT)ED STATES OF (photo above) and thru AMERIC(A) (photo below)



- All vertical shield lines extend into the upper horizontal shield lines and into the feathers below the shield
- Clash in lower right shield
- LDS: die crack along the base of DOL

This is the fourth use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .022"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS62		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-9, Large O



Obverse 4



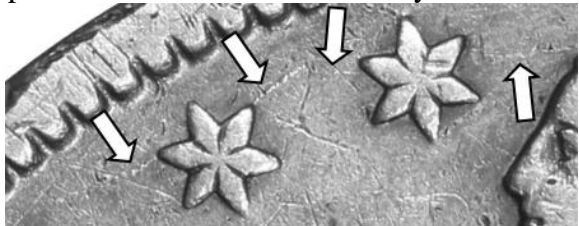
Reverse G

1844-O WB-10, Large O

Obverse 4



- Date centered (photo) now with weak second 4
- Die lines on Liberty's right knee that are extensions of the reengraved drapery seen on previous uses of this die are very weak here.

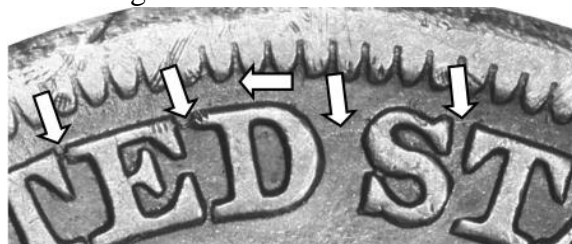


- Die cracks: thru stars 1-7 (stars 6-7-head in photo above) and 8-cap-9-12
- Very weak die crack diagonally thru ribbon and rock support

Reverse H

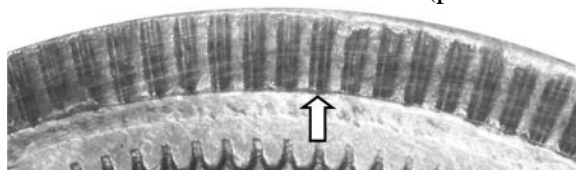


- Large O mintmark (photo); mintmark at right and tilting to the left



- Die crack along top of letters UNITED STATES and from (UNITE)D to dentil (photo)
- Strong clash in lower shield

This is the fifth and final use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die. The reeding has double vertical lines between the all the reeds (photo below).



Date grid: M2.5, .024"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-10, Large O



Obverse 4



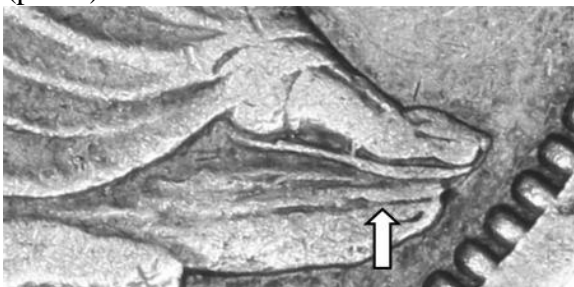
Reverse H

1844-O WB-11, Large O

Obverse 5



- Date far left; “fat” lower upright of the 1 (photo)

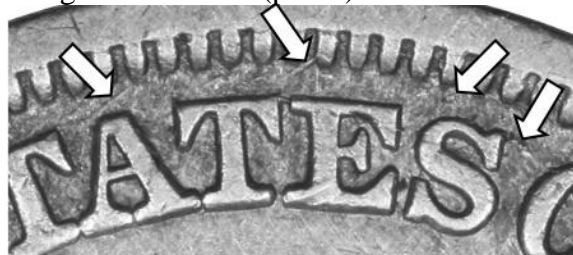


- Reengraved foot support (photo)

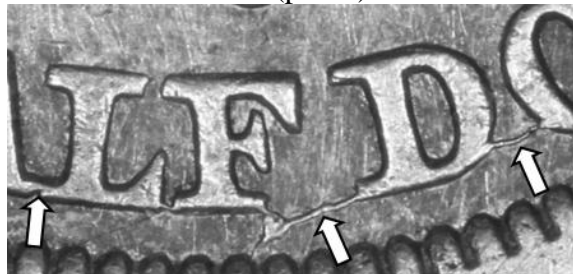
Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Scattered die lines, rust lumps and die cracks thru the legend and denomination; prominently above STATES OF (photo)



- Die cracks around most of the legend and denomination; prominently diagonally thru the H(ALF) from the olive leaves and along the base of letters HALF DOL where a LDS internal cud forms between (HAL)F D(OL) (photo)
- Clash in lower right shield

This is the first use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

The reeding has double vertical lines between the all the reeds as on WB-10 (see photo on WB-10).

Date grid: L5.5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 4
Draperie die state: Full	Foot support: Reengraved	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-11, Large O



Obverse 5



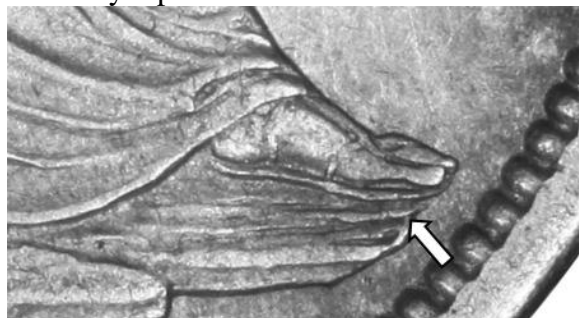
Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-12, Large O

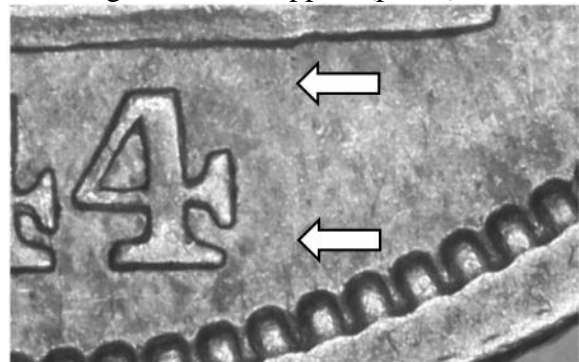
Obverse 5



- Date far left; “fat” lower upright of the 1 (photo) with the crossbar of the first 4 faintly repunched



- Reengraved foot support (photo)



- LDS: very weak vertical die crack right of date (photo) strong between the dentils
- Clash lines across Liberty's lap

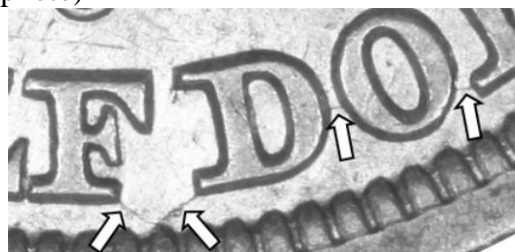
Reverse I



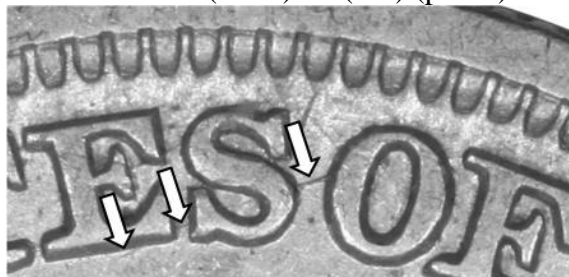
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Many parallel die lines thru (A)MER(ICA) (photo)



- Die cracks around the legend and denomination; prominently a “V” shaped crack between (HAL)F D(OL) (photo)



- File line diagonally thru (STATE)S O(F) (photo)

This is the second use of this obverse die, the first use of this reverse die, and only use in the early New Orleans half dollars of a collar with 149 reeds.

Date grid: L5.5, .016"	149 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.216"	Rarity - 3
Dravery die state: Full	Foot support: Reengraved	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1844-O
WB-12, Large O**



Obverse 5



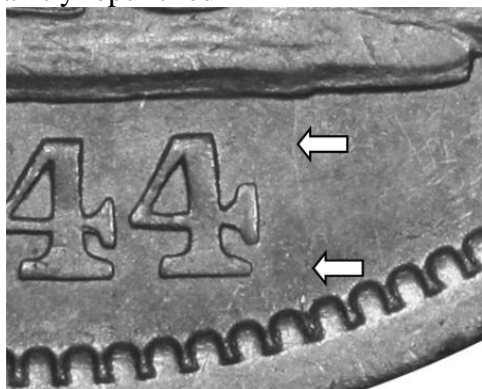
Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-13, Large O

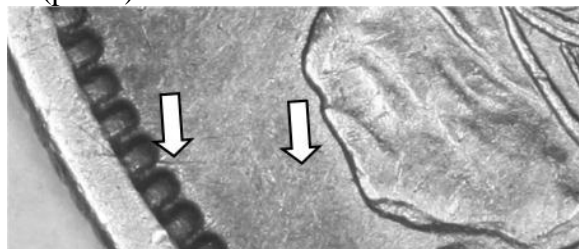
Obverse 5



- Date far left; “fat” lower upright of the 1 (photo) with the crossbar of the first 4 faintly repunched



- Weak vertical die crack right of date (photo)

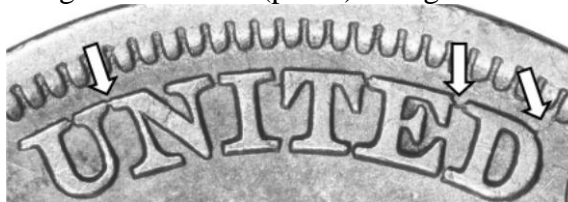


- Die crack from rock to rim at K-8 (photo)
- Die cracks from dentils to stars 6, 10, 11
- Clash lines across Liberty’s lap

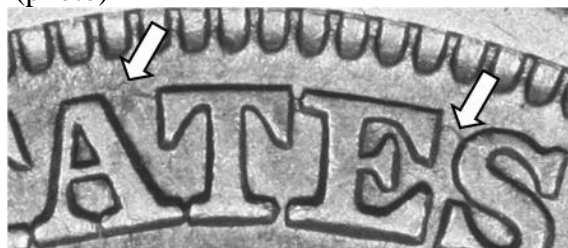
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo) tilting left



- Die crack along top of letters UNITED STATES and from (UNITE)D to dentil (photo)



- Die cracks from dentil to (STA)T(ES) and along the top of letters (photo)



- Another die crack from dentils to HA(LF) (photo) and thru lower olive leaves
- Strong clash in lower shield

This is the third use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .019”	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212”	Rarity - 4
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Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Reengraved	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: XF45	Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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**1844-O
WB-13, Large O**



Obverse 5



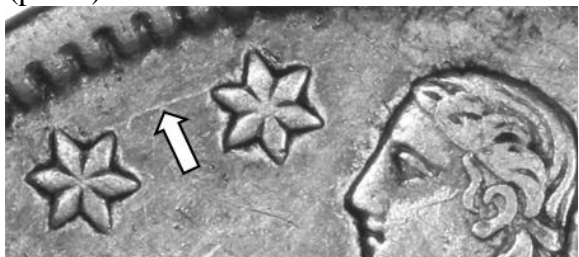
Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-14, Large O

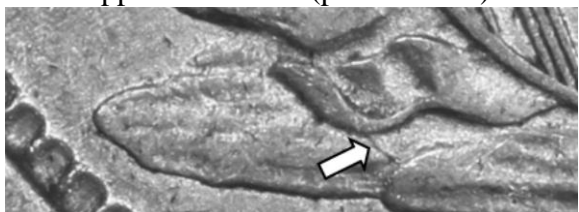
Obverse 5



- Date far left; “fat” lower upright of the 1 with the crossbar of the first 4 faintly repunched; LDS with vertical die crack right of date (photo)



- Die crack thru stars 6-7 (photo above) and thru rock support and scroll (photo below)

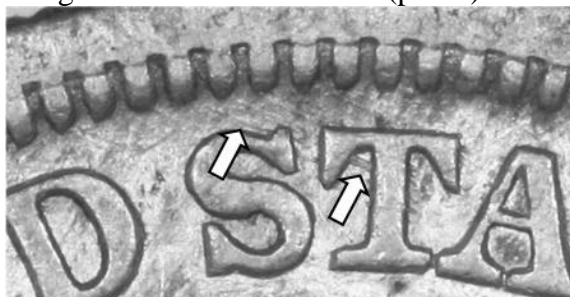


- Weak die crack from rock to rim at K-8
- Die cracks from dentil to stars 6, 10, 11
- Clash lines across Liberty’s lap
- LDS: rim cud at K-7 (see next page)

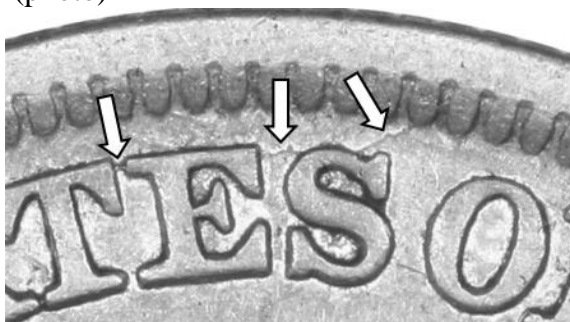
Reverse J



- Large O mintmark to far left (photo)



- EDS: diagonal die lines thru STA(TES) (photo)



- LDS: die crack along top of letters (STA)TES to dentil (photo)
- Clash in lower shield

This is the fourth and final use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .020”	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212”	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Reengraved	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45, LDS: XF45		Coins from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-14, Large O



Obverse 5



Reverse J

1844-O

WB-15, Large O, Repunched Second 4

Obverse 6

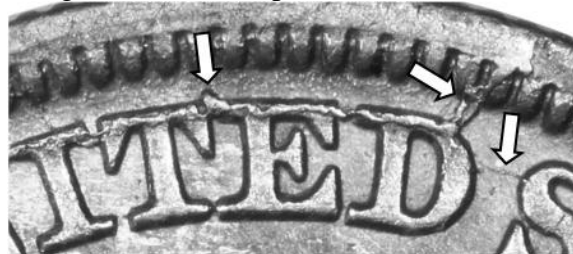


- Date centered with the second 4 repunched south (photo)
- LDS: weak die crack from Liberty's big toe to the dentil below star 13; another thru stars 3-7, Liberty's head and star 8.
- Die clash lines across Liberty's lap and above Liberty's leg on both sides of the pole

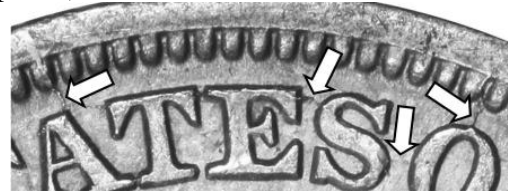
Reverse H



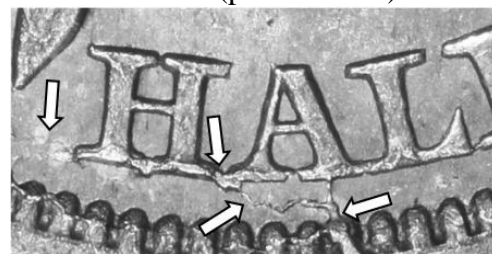
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die crack along top of letters UNITED STATES and from (UNITE)D to dentil (photo)



- Many die cracks: prominently from dentil to (ST)AT(ES) and along the top of letters (photo above) and from dentils to HA(LF) and thru lower olive leaves (photo below)



- Strong clash in lower shield

This is the first use of this obverse die and third and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .020"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU53, LDS: MS61		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-15, Large O, Repunched Second 4



Obverse 6



Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

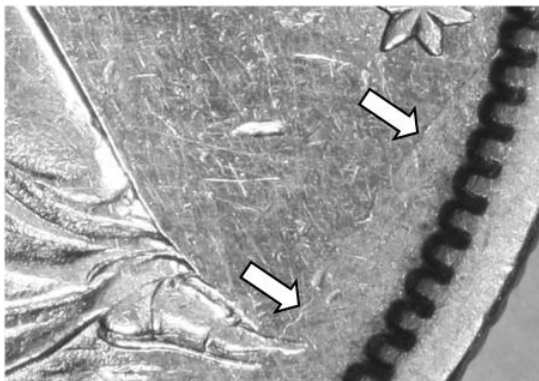
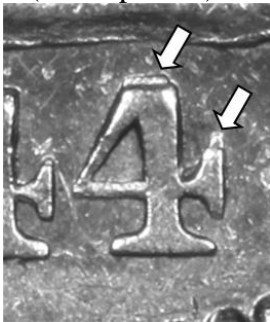
1844-O

WB-16, Large O, Repunched Second 4

Obverse 6



- Date centered with the second 4 repunched south (photos above and below) and weak centered of 8 (incomplete 8)



- All die states seen: die crack from Liberty's big toe to the dentil below star 13; another thru stars 3-7, Liberty's head, and star 8.
- Weak die clash lines across Liberty's lap
- Rim cud at K-7 (see next page)

Reverse J



- Large O mintmark to far left (photo)



- All die states: die crack along top of letters (STA)TES to dentil; LDS with \$-like die crack thru (STATE)S (photo). Other die cracks thru most of the legend and denomination (see next page) including heavy cracks below DO(L) (photo below)



- Weak clash in lower shield

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .020"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: None	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1844-O

WB-16, Large O, Repunched Second 4



Obverse 6 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-17, Large O

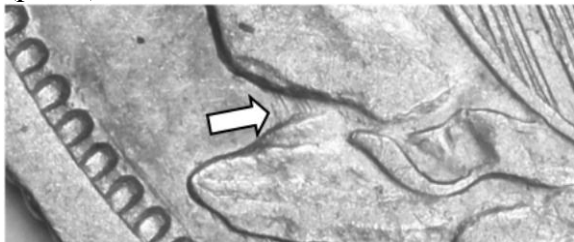
Obverse 7



- Date centered slanting down to right (photo)



- Diagonal die lines on Liberty's right calf (photo)

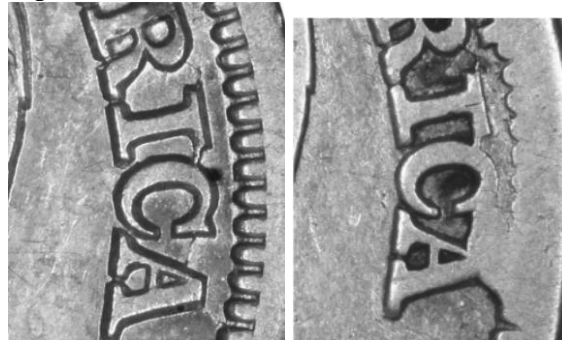


- Parallel die lines in the crotch of the rock support and rock (photo)
- Diagonal (NW to SE) die lines from Liberty's sandal into the rock support
- Horizontal die line under Liberty's chin

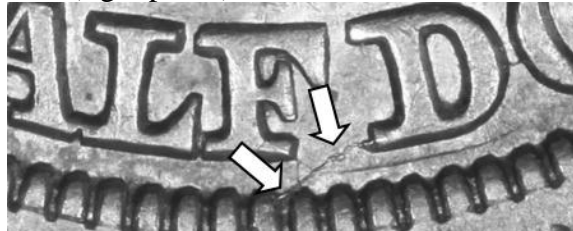
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo) with vertical die crack through the mintmark; very lightly repunched to the southwest



- Many die cracks: prominently thru (AME)RICA (left photo) and rare VLDS with cud (right photo)



- Die crack between (HAL)F D(OL) (photo)
- All die states: parallel die lines thru STATES OF

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .012"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 3 LDS w/cud: Rarity - 6
Draperies die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU50, VLDS: VG8		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection VLDS coin from the Dick Osburn Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1844-O
WB-17, Large O**



Obverse 7



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-18, Large O

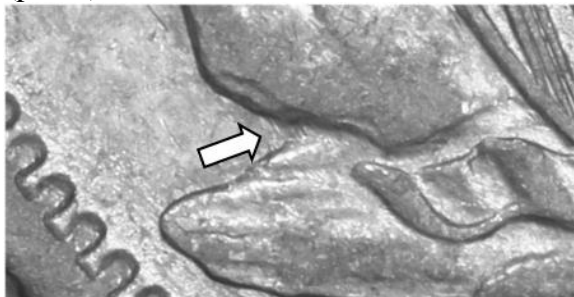
Obverse 7



- Date centered slanting down to right (photo)



- Diagonal die lines on Liberty's right calf (photo)

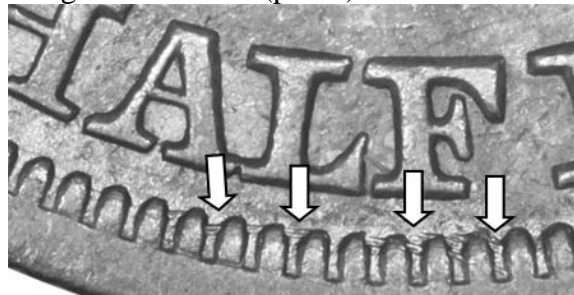


- Parallel die lines in the croch of the rock support and rock (photo)
- Diagonal (NW to SE) die lines from Liberty's sandal into the rock support
- Horizontal die line under Liberty's chin

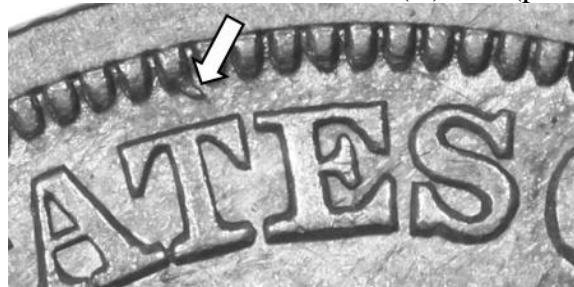
Reverse L



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die lines in the dentils below (H)ALF (photo)



- File line from the dentil above (STA)T(ES) (photo above); other lines from the dentils above AMERICA (photo below)



This is the second and final use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .012"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 5
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Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: AU53	Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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1844-O
WB-18, Large O



Obverse 7



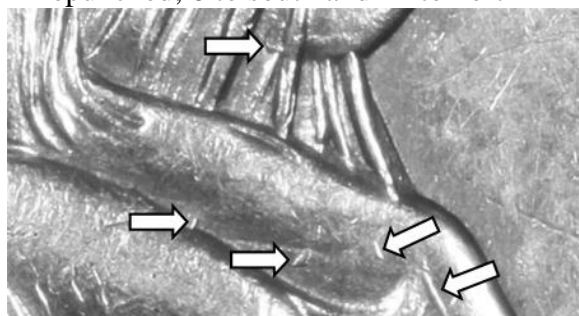
Reverse L

1844-O WB-19, Large O

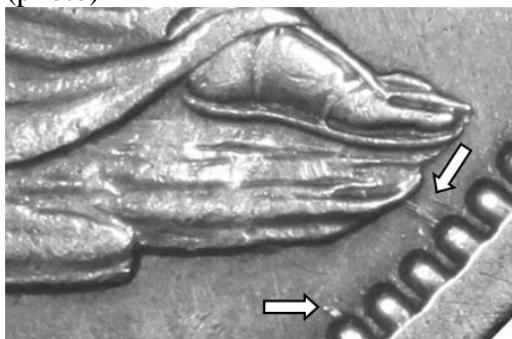
Obverse 8



- Date left (photo) with the date faintly repunched; 8 to south and 44 to north



- Small lump on the drapery next to the pole, another on Liberty's right thigh ; three lines in Liberty's lap that are extensions of the reengraved drapery (photo)

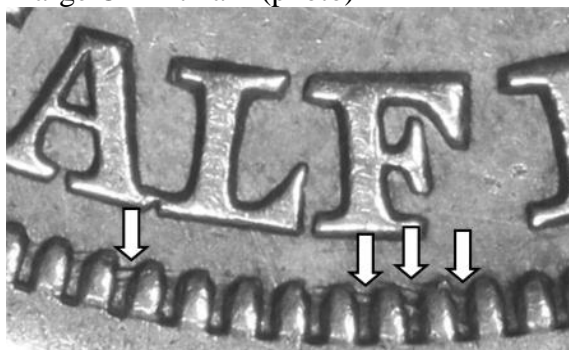


- Die lines from the dentils at and near the rock support at K-5 (photo); others at K-7

Reverse L



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die lines in the dentils below (H)ALF (photo)



- File line from the dentil above (STA)T(ES) (photo above); other lines from the dentils above AMERICA
- Die cracks from left wing to (S)T(ATES), another along the base of (ST)ATES, and between (UNITE)D S(TATES)

This is the first use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .019"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Reengraved	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-19, Large O



Obverse 8



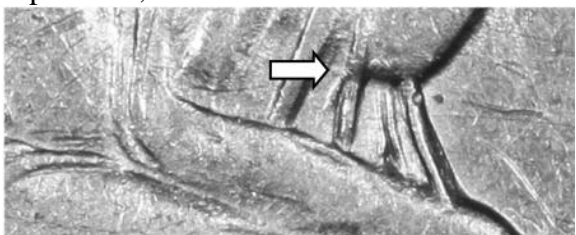
Reverse L (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-20, Large O

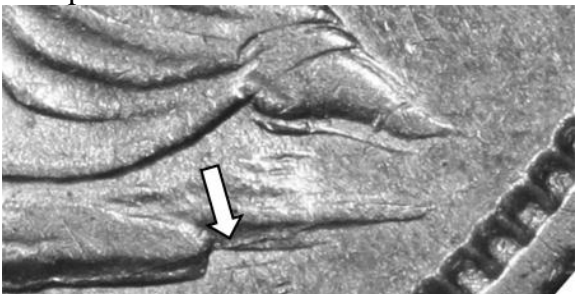
Obverse 8



- Date left (photo) with the date faintly repunched; 8 to south and 44 to north



- Small lump on the drapery next to the pole (photo); other lumps and lines seen on WB-19 now polished off the die



- LDS: no foot support and die crack along the base of the rock support below foot (photo)
- Die lines from the dentils seen on WB-19 now polished off the die

Reverse M



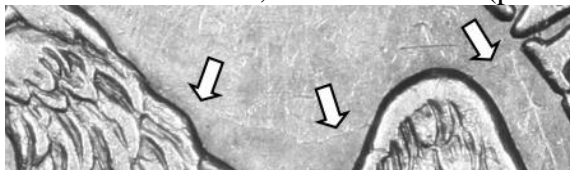
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- EDS - MDS only: double die lines between dentils thru (STAT)E(S) (photo)



- Heavily cracked die prominently thru UNITED STATES; VLDS with cud (photo)



- LDS: die crack between eagle's head and the right wing (photo)

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.
This die marriage is the most common for 1844-O.

Date grid: M1.5, .019"	EDS 148 reeds LDS 147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 2
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Reengraved to weak in LDS	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU50 VLDS: VF20		EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection VLDS coin from the Dick Osburn Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-20, Large O



Obverse 8



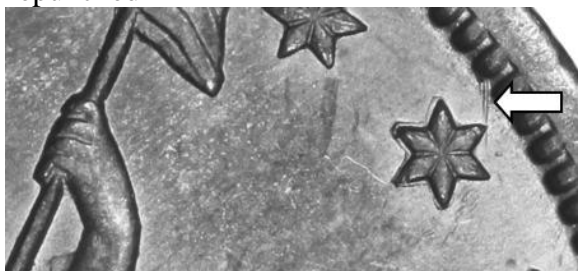
Reverse M (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1844-O WB-21, Large O

Obverse 9



- Date right (photo) with the date very slightly repunched



- Die line from dentils to star 10 (photo)
- Strong halo on most stars
- Reengraved foot support below Liberty's foot

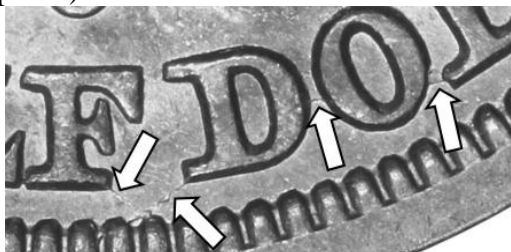
Reverse I



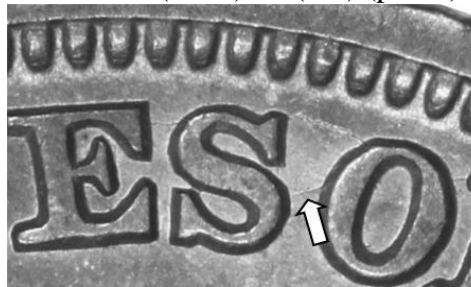
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Many parallel die lines thru (A)MER(ICA) (photo)



- Die cracks around the legend and denomination; prominently a "V" shaped crack between (HAL)F D(OL) (photo)



- Die line diagonally thru (STATE)S O(F) (photo)

This is the only use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .018"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Reengraved	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU58		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: Similar to but not WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1844-O
WB-21, Large O



Obverse 9



Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

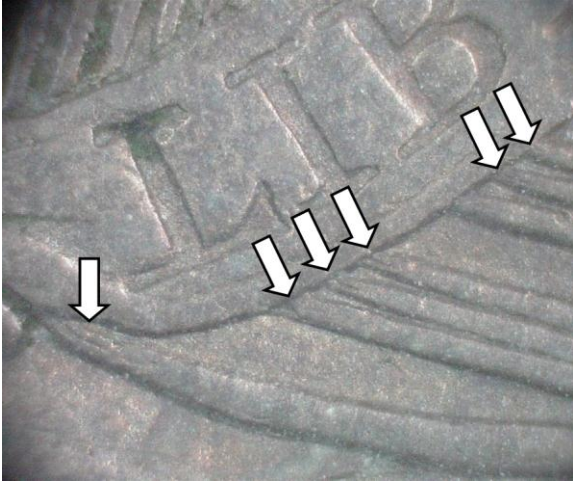
1844-O

WB-22, Medium O, Dramatically Doubled Date

Obverse 10



- Date centered and dramatically doubled with the first punching of the date in the rock support (photo)

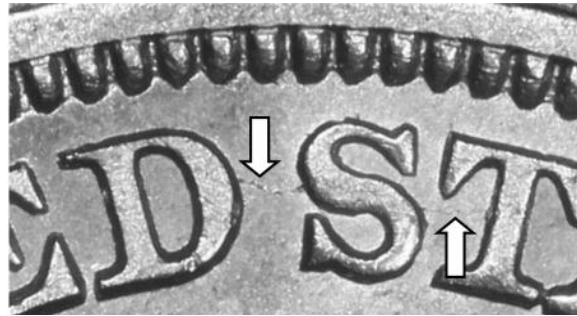


- Weak double die evident on the upper edge of vertical shield lines A1-3 and B1-3 and outside shield edge (photo). This doubling can be seen on EDS coins.

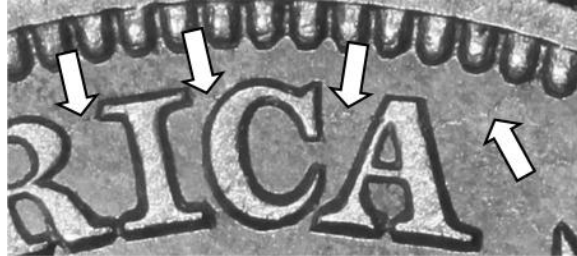
Reverse N



- Medium O mintmark (photo), the only use of a medium mintmark in 1844



- LDS: weak die cracks thru UNITE(D) ST(ATES) (photo above) and thru (AME)RICA (photo below)



- Repaired center dot (hole) in the top of vertical shield lines A1-3; only die as such seen in 1844-O
- This reverse die is transitional with 1845-O (Reverse B).

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die in 1844-O.

Date grid: M2.5, .014"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.213"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Reengraved	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: MS64		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1844-O

WB-22, Medium O, Dramatically Doubled Date



Obverse 10



Reverse N

1845-O

With a high mintage, there are plenty of 1845-O half dollars available. However, there are a large number of die marriages and many interesting die varieties to keep collecting interesting including double dates, repunched dates, a triple date, over mintmarks, multiple reed counts, lots of cracked dies, two mintmark sizes, and even a footless 1.

Twenty die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
2,094,000	Requested		-	-	2 (147, 148)
	Shipped	-	14	12	
	Known	20	13	11	

No drapery die state. Many 1845-O half dollars can be found without drapery below Liberty's elbow (photo below left). This no drapery die state resulted from excessive die polishing, is not a design change (as with the 1839 No drapery hub), and should not command a premium price. Nearly every date in the Liberty Seated half dollar series can be found with at least one obverse die in a late die state without drapery; 1845-O no drapery half dollars are neither rare nor even scarce and do not merit the attention they often receive.



No drapery below Liberty's elbow



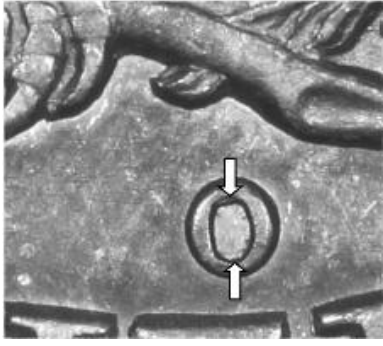










Normal drapery

1845-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
L4.5, .026"	WB-19
M1.5, .015"	WB-4
M1.5, .015"	WB-5
M1.5, .022"	WB-8
M1.5, .024"	WB-9
M2 , .016"	WB-1
M2 , .018"	WB-2
M2 , .018"	WB-3
M2 , .032"	WB-15
M2 , .033"	WB-16
M2.5, .015"	WB-18
M2.5, .016"	WB-6
M2.5, .018"	WB-7
M2.5, .018"	WB-20
M3 , .022"	WB-17
M3.5, .022"	WB-13
M3.5, .031"	WB-14
M3.5, .034"	WB-12
M4 , .018"	WB-11
M4 , .020"	WB-10

1845-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions

Medium O			
	Reverse A, WB-1	Reverse B, WB-2	Reverse C, WB-3, 6
			
Reverse D, WB-4	Reverse E, WB-5, 7, 8, 11	Reverse F, WB-9, 10	
Large O			
	Reverse G, WB-12	Reverse H, WB-13, 14, 15	Reverse I, WB-16
			
Reverse J, WB-17	Reverse K, WB-18, 19, 20		

1845-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Medium O, lines below the wings	Medium O	Medium O over horizontal O	Horizontal die lines in the lower shield and in the fields	Scattered die lines in the lower shield	“Crud” lumps under middle arrowhead	Mintmark low and left
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Doubled date	1	WB-1						
Repunched 845	2		WB-2	WB-3				
Footless 1	3				WB-4	WB-5		
Horizontal die lines across shield and Liberty’s legs	4			WB-6		WB-7		
Rust lumps in lower left shield	5					WB-8	WB-9	
Date slants down to right	6					WB-11	WB-10	WB-12

1845-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Twin die lines above (AM)E(RICA)	Die crack from (AM)E(RI(CA) to rim	Horizontal die lines in the lower shield	Die lines between the dentils and the letters (STA)TES O(F)
		H	I	J	K
Die crack past star 9 into obverse field	7	WB-13			
Date slants down to right	8	WB-14			
Date repunched far left	9	WB-15	WB-16		
84 repunched west	10			WB-17	
Triple date	11				WB-18
18 repunched north	12				WB-19
Die lines in Liberty’s gown	13				WB-20

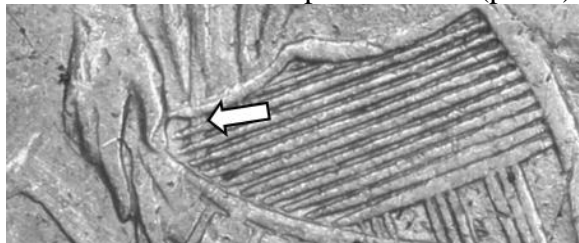
1845-O

WB-1, Medium O, Doubled Date

Obverse 1



- Date centered and repunched east (photo)

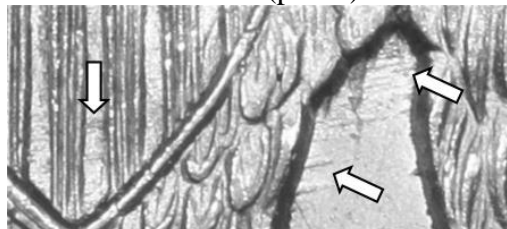


- All die states: vertical die gouge in upper edge of the shield by Liberty's thumb (photo)
- LDS: die crack from cap thru stars 9-13 (photo)
- EDS and high grade coins only: rim cuds from K-1 to K-3
- LDS: weak stars 1-3 and no drapery below Liberty's elbow
- LDS: the date repunching fades especially on the 18

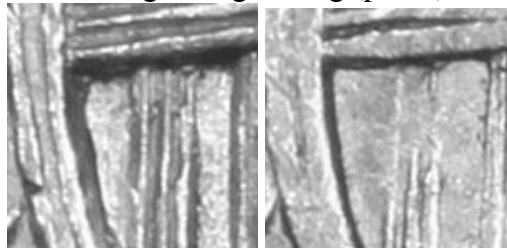
Reverse A



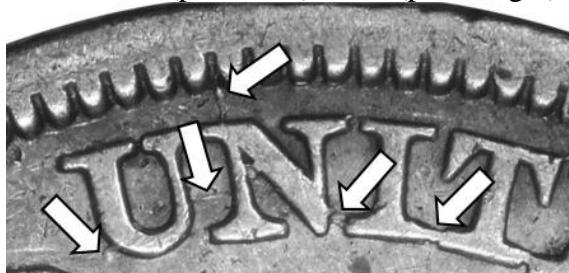
- Medium O mintmark (photo)



- EDS: horizontal die lines in lower shield and under the eagle's right wing (photo)



- Center "hole" in repaired upper shield lines A1-3: EDS (photo left), LDS (photo right)



- MDS-LDS: die cracks around most of the legend and denomination; UNIT(ED) above

This is the only use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .016"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.213"	Rarity - 2
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Drapery die state: Full to None	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: EDS: MS60 LDS: XF45/MS60	EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coins from the Bugert and Osburn Collections
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Cross reference: WB-108.	Version 4.68
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1845-O

WB-1, Medium O, Doubled Date



Obverse 1 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



Reverse A (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1845-O

WB-2, Medium O, Repunched 845

Obverse 2

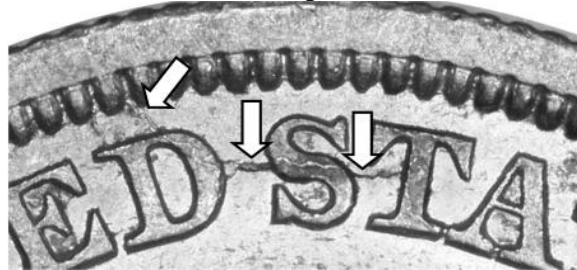


- Date centered with the 845 repunched west (photo)
- LDS: date repunching nearly gone except for a tiny spike above the serif of the 4
- Halo around most stars

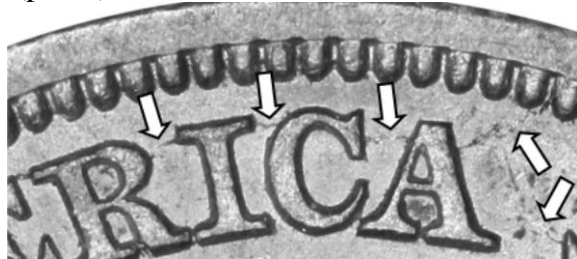
Reverse B



- Medium O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracks thru UNITE(D) ST(ATES) (photo above) and thru (AME)RICA (photo below (photo))



- This reverse die is transitional with 1844-O (reverse N).

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .018"

147 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.219"

Rarity - 4

Drapery die state: Full to Partial

Foot support: Full

Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: EDS: MS60

LDS: PCGS XF40

EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection

LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection

Cross reference: WB-102.

Version 4.68

1845-O
WB-2, Medium O, Repunched 845



Obverse 2



Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

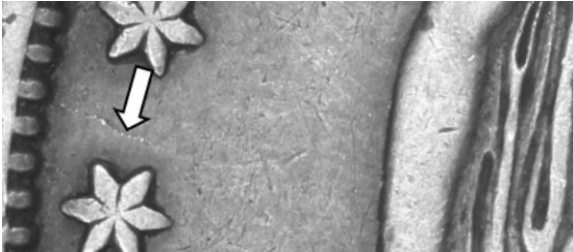
1845-O

WB-3, Medium O over horizontal O

Obverse 2



- Date centered (photo) with the repunching on the 845 seen on WB-2 now polished away; weak date

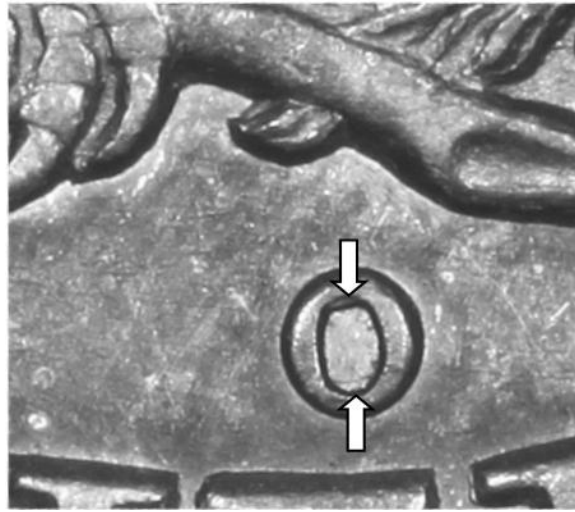


- LDS: die crack from dentil between stars 2-3 into the left obverse field (photo)

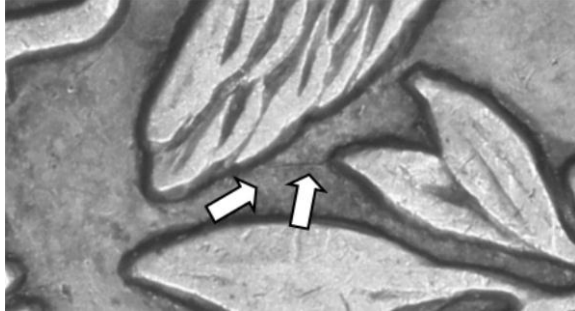


- LDS: die crack from dentil below star 13 into right obverse field (photo); another die crack between stars 12-13

Reverse C



- Medium O mintmark (photo) with the mintmark repunched over a horizontal O



- Scattered die lines between the olive leaves and the eagle's left wing (photo)
- Vertical die lines from the eagle's lower wing tip thru the top arrow shaft
- LDS: clash in shield's lower right

This is the second use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .018"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 3
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Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: AU50 MM close-up: AU55	Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection Mintmark close-up coin from the Randy Wiley Collection
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Cross reference: WB-103.	Version 4.68
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1845-O

WB-3, Medium O over horizontal O



Obverse 2



Reverse C

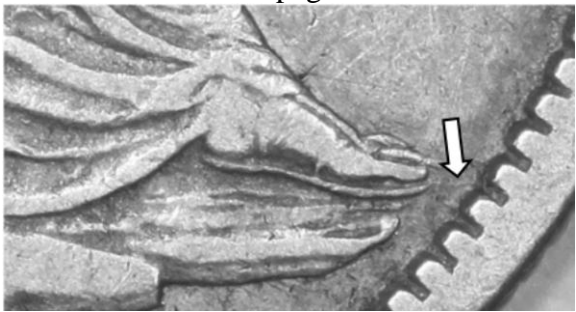
1845-O

WB-4, Large O, Footless 1

Obverse 3



- Date high with the lower left base of the 1 as a “footless 1” (photo); EDS: repunched 84 (photo above). LDS with the left foot of the 1 missing is shown on the next page.

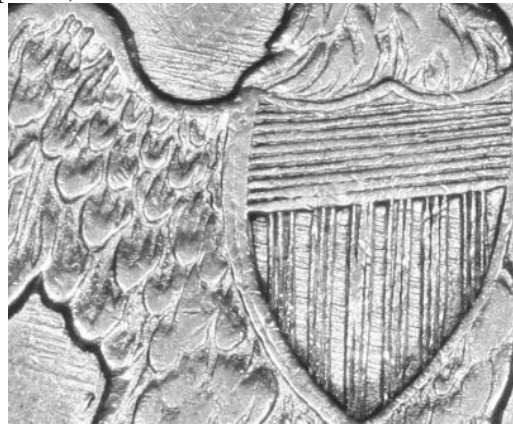


- LDS: die crack from Liberty’s toes to K-4 (photo)
- LDS: clash lines in Liberty’s drapery below the elbow

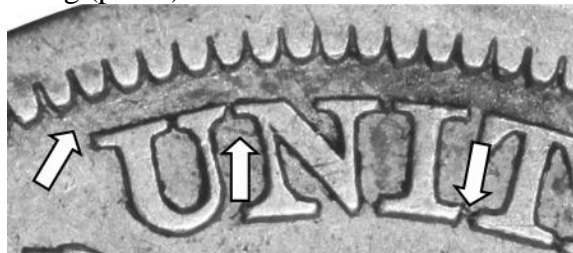
Reverse D



- Large O mintmark, low, left, and tilting right (photo)



- Horizontal die lines in the lower shield and in the fields above and below the eagle’s left wing (photo)



- Die cracks prominently thru UNIT(ED) (photo), others thru and above (STAT)ES OF, and thru olive leaves

This is the first use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .015”	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212”	Rarity - 4
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Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: EDS: VF30 LDS: XF40	EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection
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Cross reference: WB-109.	Version 4.68
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1845-O

WB-4, Large O, Footless 1



Obverse 3



Reverse D

1845-O

WB-5, Large O, Footless 1

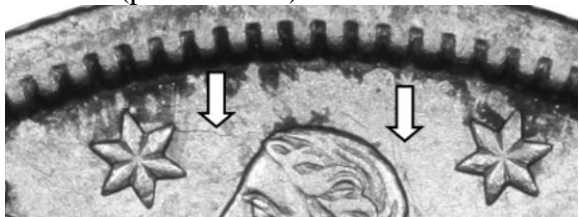
Obverse 3



- Date high with the lower left base of the 1 as a “footless 1” (photo); now with the lower half of the 1 almost gone and a die crack thru the 184 and from the dentil below the 18 diagonally thru the 1 into the field



- Die crack from Liberty’s toes to K-4 (photo above); another from star 7 thru Liberty’s head to star 8 (photo below) and between stars 2-5



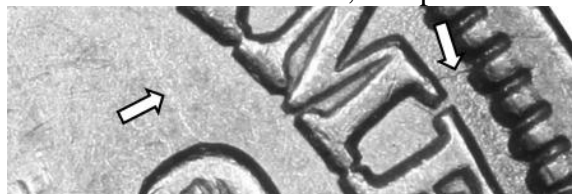
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark, low, right, and tilting left (photo)



- EDS: scattered die lines (mostly diagonal) in the lower shield (photo); note “hole” in top of vertical shield lines A1-3 that is, unlike the other 1845-O reverse dies, unrepaired.



- Die cracks from upper right wing into field; another from (A)M(ERICA) to dentil (photo). Others thru legend
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .015”	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.211”	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-109.		Version 4.68	

1845-O
WB-5, Large O, Footless 1



Obverse 3



Reverse E

1845-O

WB-6, Medium O over horizontal O

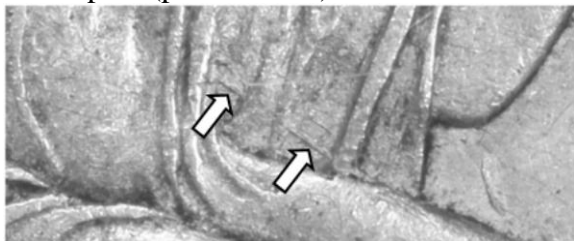
Obverse 4



- Date centered (photo) with very lightly repunched 18 seen on high grade coins

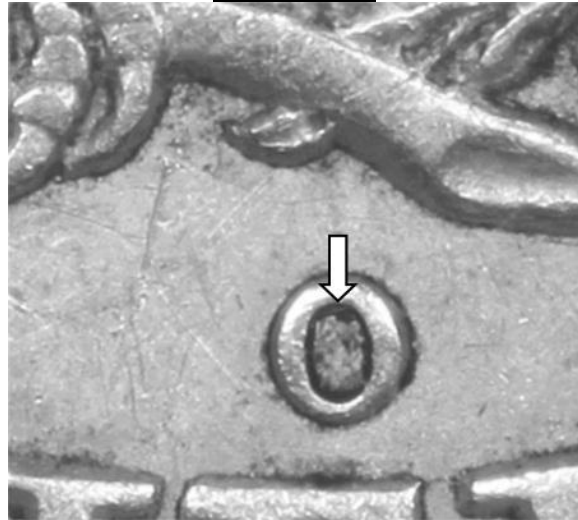


- Heavy horizontal die lines across the lower shield and Liberty's legs (photo above): these are die defects and not clash lines as sometimes mistakenly called; another diagonally (NW to SE) in the Liberty's gown to the left of the base of the pole (photo below)

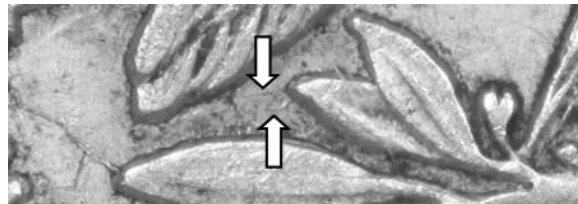


- Weak star 8
- Two lumps in the rock support below the ribbon

Reverse C



- Medium O mintmark (photo) with the mintmark repunched over a horizontal O; repunching now only shows inside the top of mintmark



- Scattered die lines between the olive leaves and the eagle's left wing (photo)



- Die cracks prominently thru the olive leaves and along the top of the letters UNIT(ED) (photo); others from the arrowheads to the dentils
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the first use of this obverse die and the second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .016"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.214"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: NGC AU53		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1845-O

WB-6, Medium O over horizontal O



Obverse 4



Reverse C (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1845-O WB-7, Large O

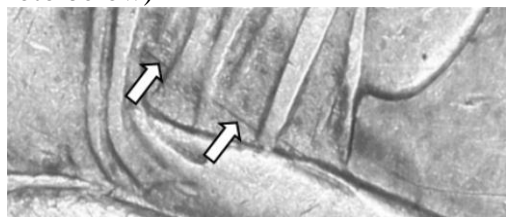
Obverse 4



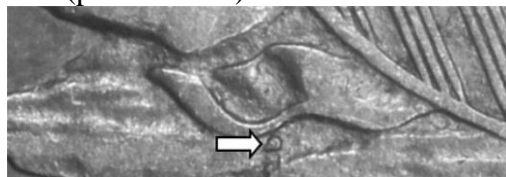
- Date centered (photo) with very lightly repunched 18 seen on high grade coins



- Heavy horizontal die lines across the lower shield and Liberty's legs (photo above): these are die defects and not clash lines as sometimes mistakenly called; another diagonally (NW to SE) in the drapery below Liberty's elbow (photo below)



- Two lumps in the rock support below the ribbon (photo below)



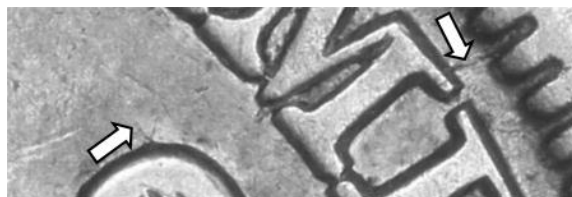
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark, low, right, and tilting left (photo)



- Scattered die lines (mostly diagonal) in the lower shield (photo); note "hole" in top of vertical shield lines A1-3



- Die cracks from upper right wing into field; another from (A)M(ERICA) to dentil (photo). Others thru legend and denomination

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and the second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .018"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Partial	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1845-O
WB-7, Large O



Obverse 4



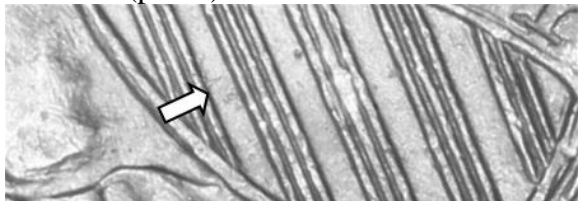
Reverse E

1845-O WB-8, Large O

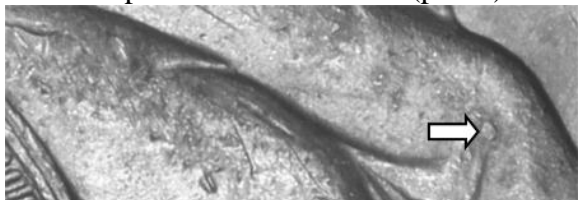
Obverse 5



- Date left (photo)



- Rust lumps in lower left shield (photo)

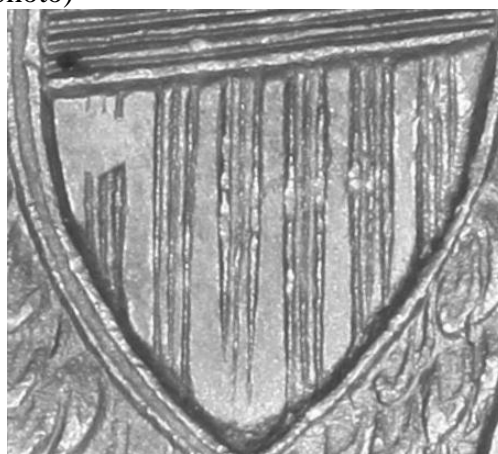


- Lump on Liberty's right knee (photo)
- EDS only: die lines thru top of ribbon tip

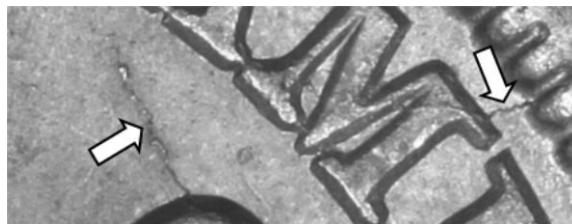
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark, low, right, and tilting left (photo)



- Scattered die lines see on WB-7 now polished away (photo); note the "hole" in top of vertical shield lines A1-3 and weak lower shield lines C1-3



- Die cracks from upper right wing into field; another from (A)M(ERICA) to dentil (photo). Others thru legend and denomination (see next page)

This is the first use of this obverse die and the third use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .022"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS62		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1845-O
WB-8, Large O



Obverse 5



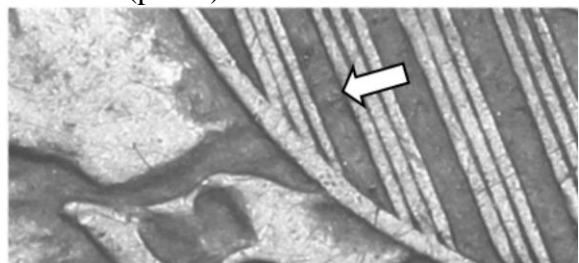
Reverse E (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1845-O WB-9, Large O

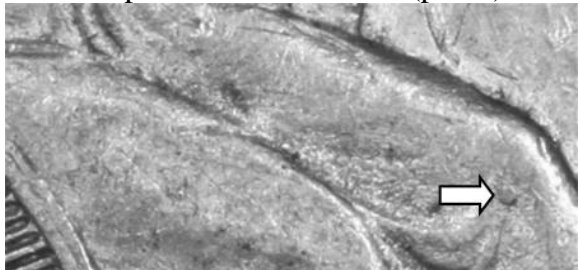
Obverse 5



- Date left (photo)



- Rust lumps in lower left shield (photo)

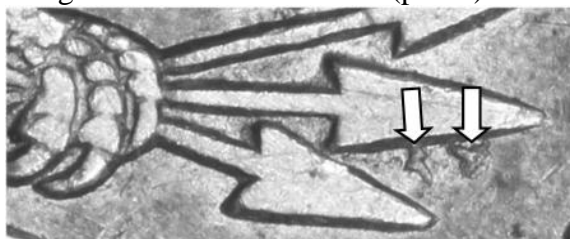


- All die states: lump on Liberty's right knee (photo)

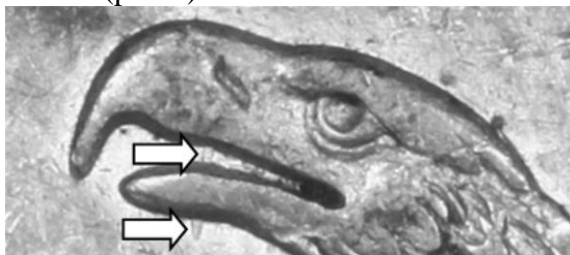
Reverse F



- Large O mintmark to the left (photo)



- LDS: "crud" lumps under middle arrowhead (photo) and vertical die line thru the eagle's mouth (photo)



- LDS: die cracks initially from (UNI)T(ED) to dentil above (UN)I(TED) (photo)



This is the second and final use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .024"	EDS 148 reeds LDS 147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.209"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Strong to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: AU55		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1845-O
WB-9, Large O



Obverse 5



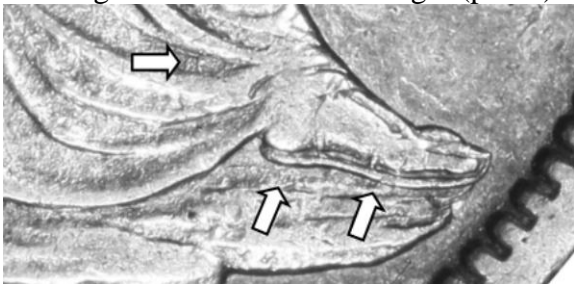
Reverse F

1845-O WB-10, Large O

Obverse 6



- Date right that slants down to right (photo)

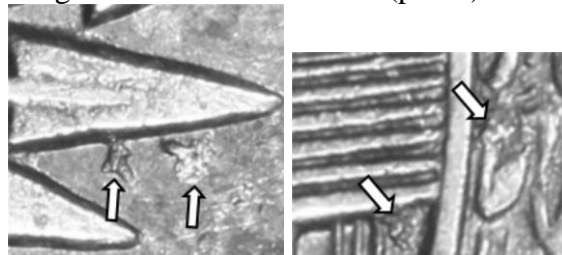


- Small vertical die lines in the rock support below Liberty's sandal and a small lump in Liberty's gown behind her heel (photo)
- EDS: unclashed
- LDS: clash lines in the drapery below Liberty's elbow

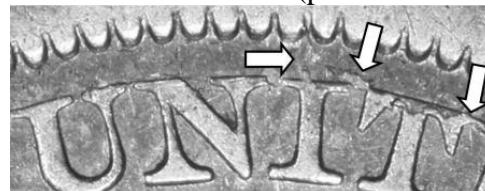
Reverse F



- Large O mintmark to the left (photo)



- "Crud" lumps under middle arrowhead (photo above left) and in the upper right inside and outside corner the shield (photo above right)



- Die cracks initially from (UNI)T(ED) to dentil above (UN)I(TED) (photo)



- LDS: die crack from eagle's head thru (O)F (photo)

This is the first use of this obverse die and the second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M4, .020"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.208"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full to Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1845-O
WB-10, Large O



Obverse 6



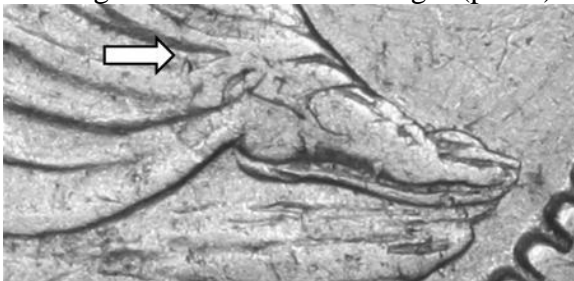
Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1845-O WB-11, Large O

Obverse 6



- Date right that slants down to right (photo)

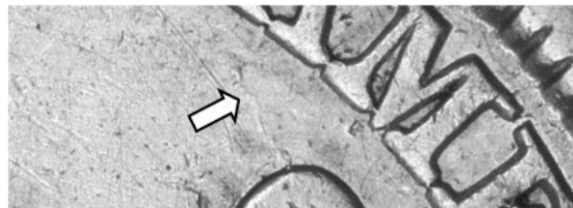


- Small lump in Liberty's gown behind her heel (photo); the die lines below Liberty's sandal seen on WB-10 are now polished away.

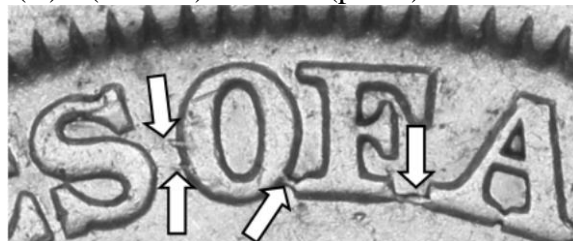
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark, low, right, and tilting left (photo)
- "Hole" in top of vertical shield lines A1-3 and weak lower shield lines C1-3



- Die cracks from upper right wing into field below AM(ERICA); another from (A)M(ERICA) to dentil (photo).



- Double die cracks thru (STATE)S O(F) (photo) and others thru the legend and denomination

This is the second use of this obverse die and the fourth and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M4, .018"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.207"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1845-O
WB-11, Large O**



Obverse 6



Reverse E (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1845-O WB-12, Large O

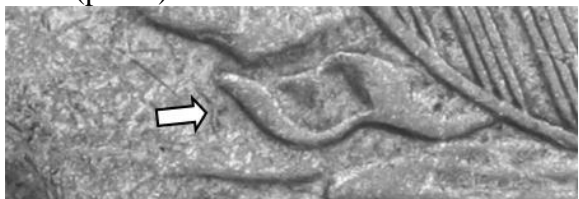
Obverse 6



- Date right that slants down to right (photo). Note weak and missing rock support above the date.



- LDS with 148 reeds: stars 1-4 polished off the die giving a cameo-like appearance in the left field (photo)



- LDS: weak die crack in the rock support to the left of the scroll

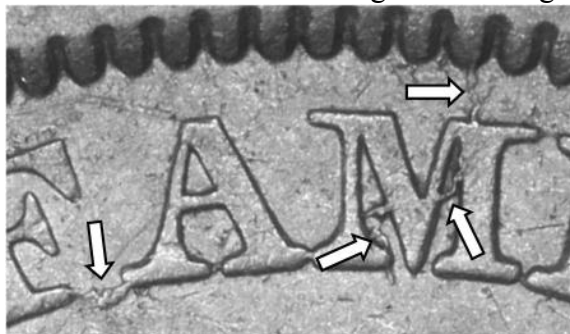
Reverse G



- Large O mintmark low, left, and upright (photo)



- EDS only with 147 reeds: die lines between letters AME(RICA) and dentils (photo); others below letters (HA)LF; scattered die lines between olive leaves and eagle's left wing tip



- LDS only with 148 reeds: die crack initially diagonally thru (A)M(ERICA) (photo)

This is the third and final use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3.5, .034"	EDS: 147 reeds LDS: 148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.207"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Weak to None	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: XF45		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1845-O
WB-12, Large O



Obverse 6



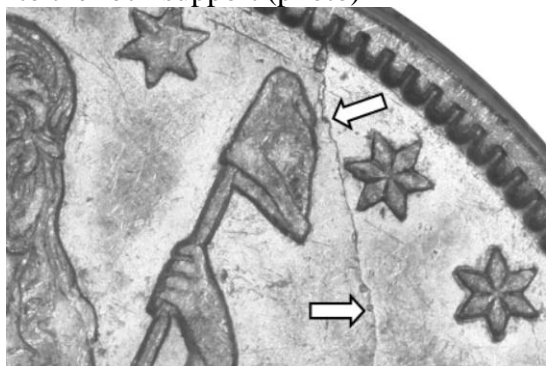
Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1845-O WB-13, Large O

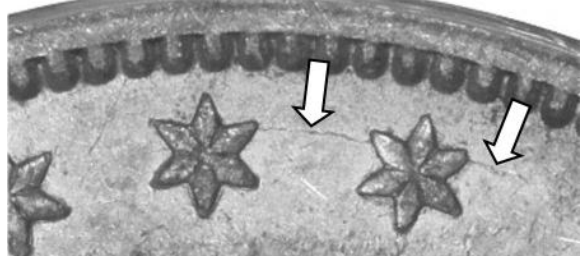
Obverse 7



- Date low with die crack diagonally (SW to NE) bisecting the 18 from the dentil below the 1 into the rock support (photo)



- All examples seen: die crack from dentil above cap past star 9 into obverse field (photo)

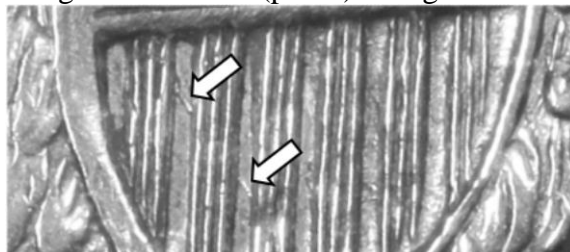


- LDS: die crack thru stars 12-13 (photo)

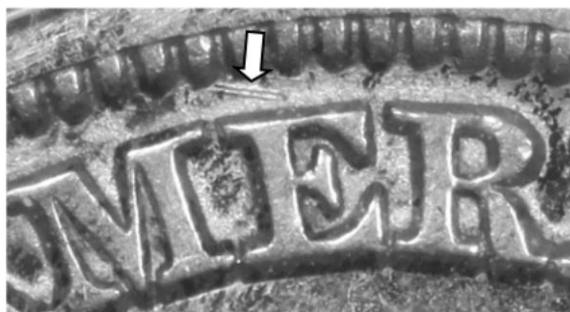
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo) tilting left



- EDS: diagonal (NW to SE) die line in the lower shield (photo). Note repaired center dot in vertical shield lines A1-3.



- Twin die lines above (AM)E(RICA) (photo)
- All examples seen: weak die crack along top of letters UNI(TED)
- EDS: unfinished under olive leaves, arrowheads, and within the shield's lower right

This is the only use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

This die marriage is a recent discovery; only three have been seen to date. The estimated rarity rating may change quickly with increased collector searching.

Date grid: M3.5, .022"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.205"	Rarity - 6
Draper die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: LDS: PCGS AU53 EDS: ANACS AU50		LDS coin from the Barry Stallard Collection EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1845-O
WB-13, Large O**



Obverse 7 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



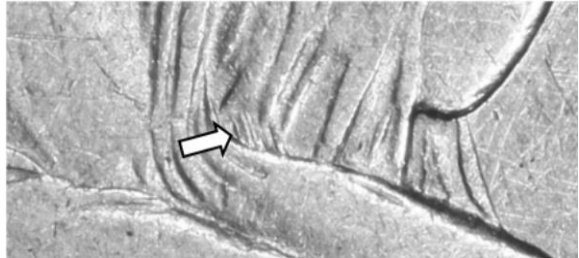
Reverse H

1845-O WB-14, Large O

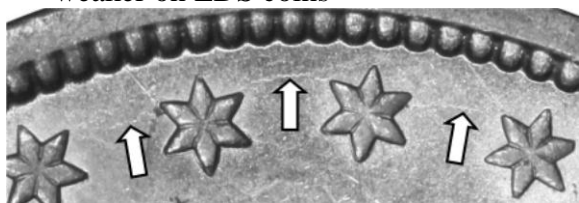
Obverse 8



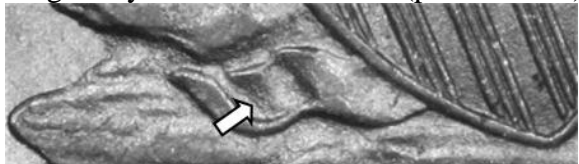
- Date low and slanting down to the right (photo)



- EDS: file lines in Liberty's lap (photo); much weaker on LDS coins



- Weak die crack thru stars 10-13 (photo) and diagonally thru the ribbon end (photo below)

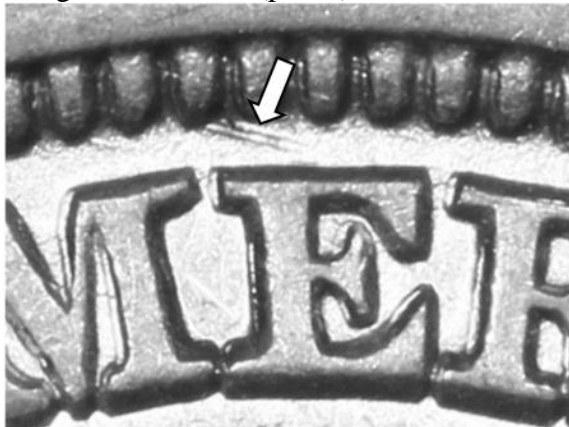


- Long vertical die lines in Liberty's gown to the right of the lower shield

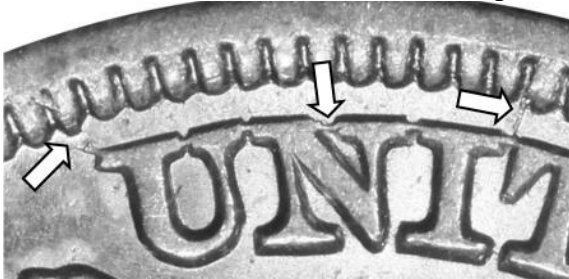
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Twin die lines above (AM)E(RICA) (photo)



- Die crack along top of letters UNITED (photo) and thru most of the legend and denomination

This is the only use of this obverse die and the second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3.5, .031"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.211"	Rarity - 4
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Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: EDS: VF35 LDS: MS61	EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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1845-O
WB-14, Large O



Obverse 8



Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

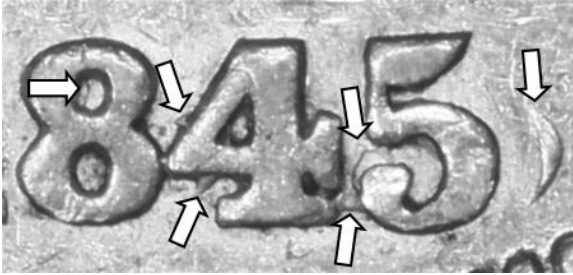
1845-O

WB-15, Large O, Dramatically Doubled Date

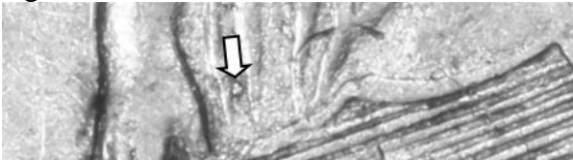
Obverse 9



- Date low and repunched far left (photo)



- Date repunched far left (close-up photo) with the remnant of the lower loop of the 5 in the far right field

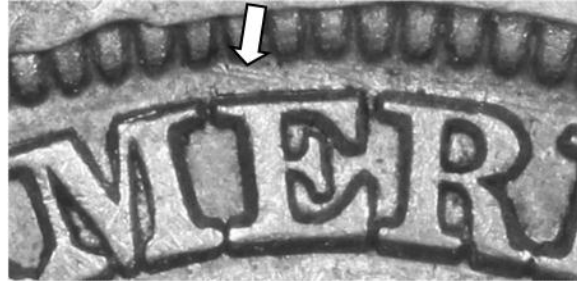


- Small lump in the gown next to Liberty's left thumb (photo)
- Most stars recut

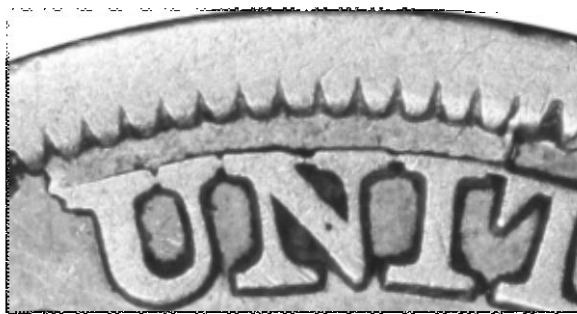
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Twin die lines above (AM)E(RICA) (photo) now much weaker



- Die crack along top of letters UNITED; LDS: with cud (photo) and thru much of the legend and denomination

This is the first use of this obverse die and the third and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .032"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 5
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Draperies die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: VF30	EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection
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Cross reference: WB-104.	Version 4.68
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1845-O

WB-15, Large O, Dramatically Doubled Date



Obverse 9



Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1845-O

WB-16, Large O, Dramatically Doubled Date

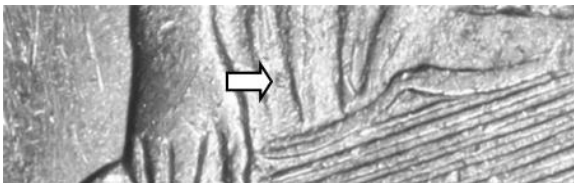
Obverse 9



- Date low and repunched far left (photo)



- Date repunched far left (close-up photo) with the remnant of the lower loop of the 5 in the far right field; LDS shown here with a die crack from the dentil below to the 4



- Small lump in the gown next to Liberty's left thumb (photo)
- Most stars recut

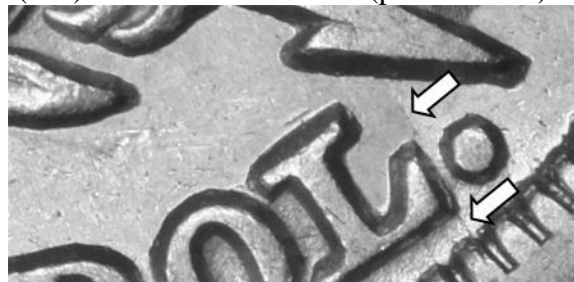
Reverse I



- Large O mintmark high and right (photo)



- Die cracks initially from (AME)RI(CA) to rim (photo); another LDS die crack from dentil to (DO)L to lower arrowhead (photo below)



- Unfinished beneath most letters of the denomination
- LDS: clash in lower right shield

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .033"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1845-O

WB-16, Large O, Dramatically Doubled Date



Obverse 9



Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1845-O

WB-17, Large O, Repunched 84

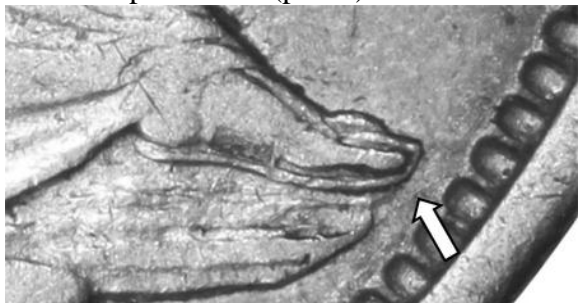
Obverse 10



- Date centered with the 84 repunched west (photo)



- 84 repunched west with the most visible repunching in the center of both the upper and lower loops of the 8 (photo)

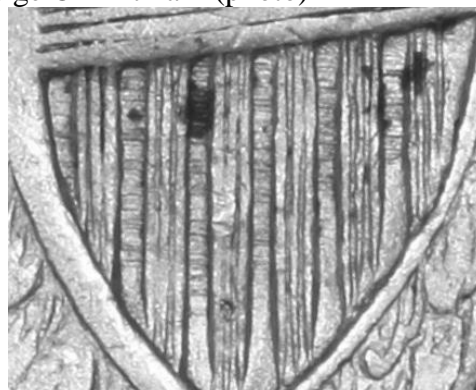


- Die crack from the rock support below the foot to the dentil in front of the toes (photo)
- Strong halo around most stars

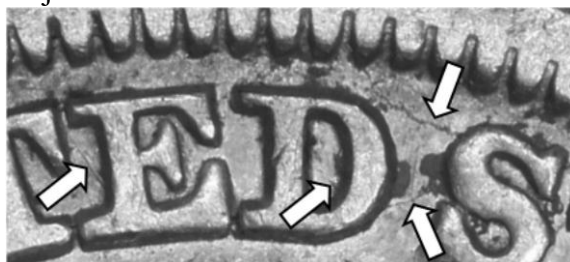
Reverse J



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Horizontal die lines in the lower shield (photo) and in the field above the eagle's wing adjacent to its neck



- Die line between (UNI)TE(D) and in the (UNITE)D; die crack around most of the denomination and legend including a double crack between (UNITE)D S(TATES) (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1846-O (reverse J).

This is the only use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3, .022"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.204"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1845-O
WB-17, Large O, Repunched 84



Obverse 10



Reverse J

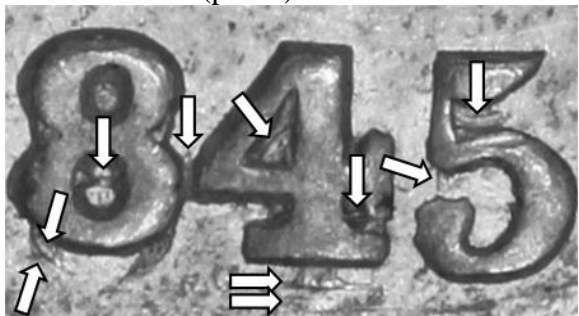
1845-O

WB-18, Large O, Tripled Date

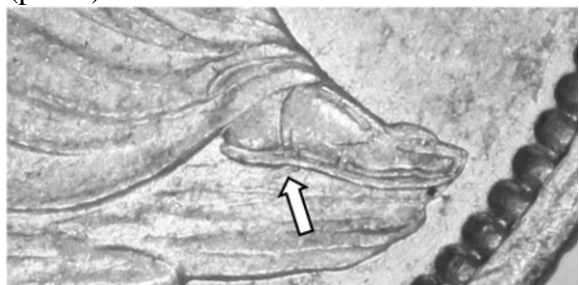
Obverse 11



- Date high with the digits 845 triple punched with weak lower edge of the rock support above the date (photo)



- The 845 of the date is triple punched north (photo)

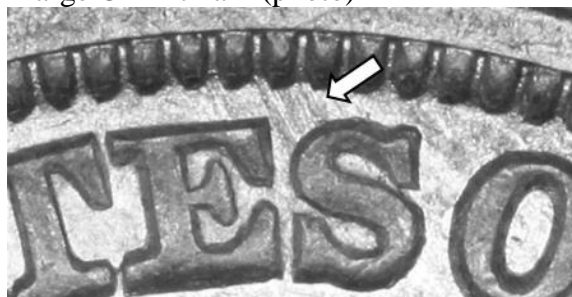


- Diagonal (NE to SW) die line in the rock support from Liberty's foot (photo)
- Strong halo around most stars

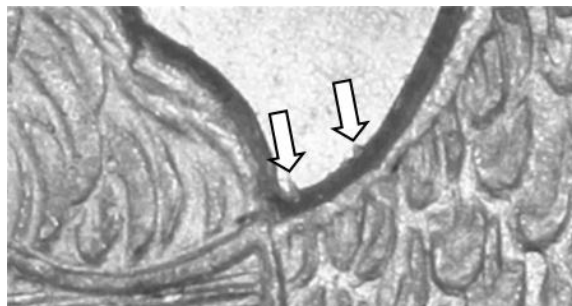
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die lines between the dentils and the letters (STAT)ES (photo) and above (AME)RIC(A)
- Unfinished under the olive leaves and the arrowheads



- Tines on the edge of the eagle's upper right wing (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1846-O (reverse K).

This is the only use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .015"

147 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.205"

Rarity - 4

Drapery die state: Full

Foot support: Full

Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: AU58

Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection

Cross reference: WB-106.

Version 4.68

1845-O
WB-18, Large O, Tripled Date



Obverse 11



Reverse K

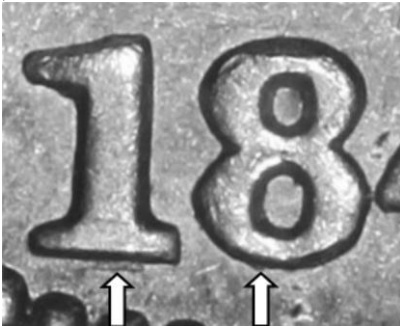
1845-O

WB-19, Large O, Repunched 18

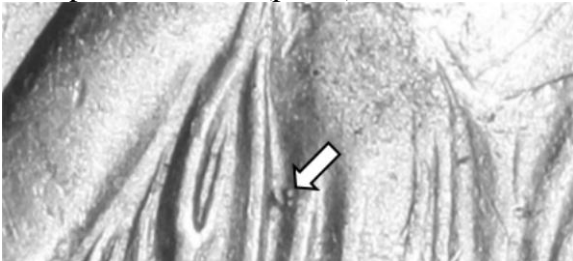
Obverse 12



- Date far left with the 18 repunched north (photo)



- 18 repunched north (photo)



- Lumps in Liberty's upper left gown (photo); other lumps above the shield
- Most stars repunched

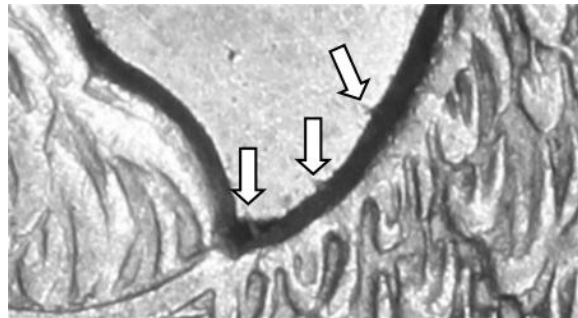
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo); LDS as above with a die crack along the left side of the mintmark



- Die lines between the dentils and the letters (STAT)ES (photo) and above (AME)RIC(A)
- Unfinished under the olive leaves and the arrowheads



- Tines on the edge of the eagle's upper right wing (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1846-O (reverse K).

This is the only use of this obverse die and the second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L4.5, .026"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.206"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-107.		Version 4.68	

1845-O

WB-19, Large O, Repunched 18



Obverse 12



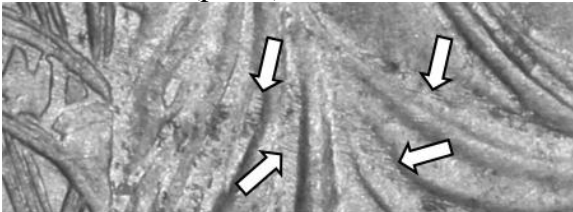
Reverse K

1845-O WB-20, Large O

Obverse 13



- Date centered (photo)



- Many horizontal die lines in Liberty's gown to the right of the scroll (photo) and below the left hand
- LDS: die crack from dentils to the left of the rock thru stars 1-3

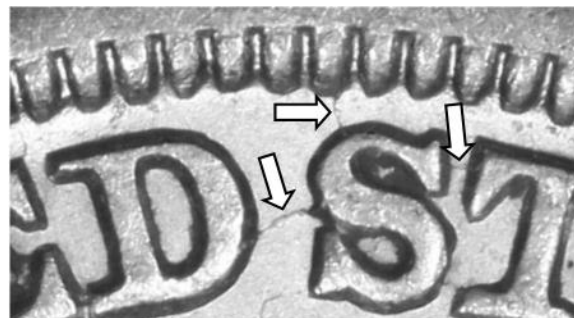
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark with a die crack along the left side of the mintmark (photo)



- Die lines between the dentils and the letters (STAT)ES (photo) and above (AME)RIC(A)
- Unfinished under the olive leaves and the arrowheads



- Die crack around the legend and denomination; (UNITE)S ST(ATES) shown above (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1846-O (reverse K).

This is the only use of this obverse die and the third and final use of this reverse die in 1845-O.

Date grid: M2.5, .018"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.207"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full to partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1845-O
WB-20, Large O**



Obverse 13



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1846-O

This date is amazing; with a fairly high mintage, it has a lot to offer the die marriage collector. The number of reverse dies used is over twice that of the obverse dies, yet the obverse dies pretty much remained intact while the reverses cracked extensively. This is most likely the result of the differences in use between the hammer (obverse) and anvil (reverse) dies and the resultant die cracks and cuds add much interest to this date. Additionally, there are two date sizes, repunched dates, rare and scarce die marriages and die states, multiple reed counts, and different mintmark positions.

Twenty-seven die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
2,304,000	Requested	-	-	-	3 (145, 147, 148)
	Shipped	-	10	10	
	Known	27	9	20*	

* Includes five transitional use dies (two from 1845-O and three to 1847-O).

Terminology: Tall and Large dates. Both terms are interchangeable when describing the size of the larger date size for 1846-O. Tall date seems to be the accepted standard but Randy Wiley and I prefer the term “Large.”

Medium versus Large (Tall) date differences. Much confusion still exists over identifying the difference between the medium and large (tall) date varieties for this year. Considering the premium price of the large date, it is important to correctly differentiate these. Besides the dramatic difference between the size of the dates (when compared side by side as below), a quick and reliable check can be performed by studying the 4. The medium 4 is connected between the lower serif on the crossbar and the base. The large 4 has noticeable separation. Less noticeable differences exist on the upper left serifs on the 1. (See side by side photos below).



Medium date with 4 connected



Large (Tall) date with 4 separated

No drapery die state. Many, and I might stretch that to say that most, 1846-O half dollars can be found with either weak drapery or without any drapery below Liberty’s elbow (see photos on next page). The no drapery die state resulted from excessive die polishing and is not a design change (as with the 1839 No drapery hub). Amazingly, coins of the 1845-O no drapery die state command an unwarranted premium price, while the 1846-O with similar characteristics do not. Nearly every date in the Liberty Seated half dollar series can be found with at least one obverse die in a late die state without drapery; 1846-O no drapery half dollars are neither rare nor even scarce and do not merit any special attention.



1846-O No drapery below elbow























1846-O With partial drapery below elbow

1846-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
L4.5, .021"	WB-19
L4.5, .022"	WB-7
L4.5, .022"	WB-20
L5 , .020"	WB-6
L5 , .020"	WB-16
L5 , .022"	WB-17
L5 , .022"	WB-18
L5.5, .016"	WB-9
L5.5, .018"	WB-4
L5.5, .018"	WB-10
L5.5, .019"	WB-5
L5.5, .021"	WB-21
L5.5, .022"	WB-11
M1 , .014"	WB-8
M1 , .017"	WB-12
M1 , .018"	WB-13
M1 , .019"	WB-14
M1 , .020"	WB-1
M1 , .020"	WB-15
M1 , .024"	WB-2
M1 , .026"	WB-3
M2.5, .016"	WB-24
M2.5, .017"	WB-25
M2.5, .018"	WB-26
M2.5, .018"	WB-27
M3 , .016"	WB-22
M3 , .018"	WB-23

1846-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions

 Reverse A, WB-1	 Reverse B, WB-2	 Reverse C, WB-3
 Reverse D, WB-4	 Reverse E, WB-5	 Reverse F, WB-6
 Reverse G, WB-7, 8	 Reverse H, WB-9	 Reverse I, WB-10
 Reverse J, WB-11,12	 Reverse K, WB-13, 19, 25	 Reverse L, WB-14
 Reverse M, WB-15, 16	 Reverse N, WB-17	 Reverse O, WB-18
 Reverse P, WB-20, 21, 22	 Reverse Q, WB-23	 Reverse R, WB-24
 Reverse S, WB-26	 Reverse T, WB-27	

1846-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Small tine on the upper left edge of the (O)F	Crisscrossed die lines thru UNITED	Tine on the dentil below the (HA)L(F)	Die damage under and on the lower olive leaves	Small tine on upper edge of the eagle's left wing	Die lines below the eagle's right wing	Horizontal die lines in the lower shield
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Clash lines across Liberty's lap	1	WB-1	WB-2	WB-3				
18 repunched north	2				WB-4	WB-5		
1 and 6 repunched south	3						WB-6	WB-7

1846-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Horizontal die lines in the lower shield	Unfinished under olive leaves	Lower edge of the mintmark weak	Horizontal die lines in the lower shield	Die lines above (STA)TES	Die crack from the eagle's head to the O(F)	Small lump on the olive branch's recessed area
		G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Date left	4	WB-8	WB-9	WB-10	WB-11			
6 repunched	5				WB-12	WB-13	WB-14	WB-15
Weak doubled die	6					WB-19		WB-16
Large date	9					WB-25		

1846-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Mintmark at far right and tilting to the left	Heavy die line from U(NITTED)	Diagonal die line thru the (STAT)ES	Die lines between the upper olive leaves and the eagle's left wing	Tine from dentil above S(TATES)	Unfinished under olive leaves	Vertical shield line B2 faintly doubled
		N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
Weak doubled die	6	WB-17	WB-18	WB-20				
Rust lump on Liberty's gown	7			WB-21				
Large date Tine from dentil near star 7	8			WB-22	WB-23			
Large date	9					WB-24	WB-26	WB-27

1846-O WB-1, Medium Date

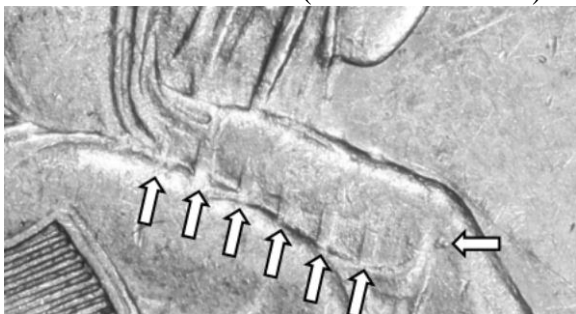
Obverse 1



- Date left with the knob of the 6 repunched (photo); weak vertical die crack forming below left side of the 1



- Repunched knob of the 6 (photo); this is ML Beistle's so-called 6/5 (Beistle obverse 2)

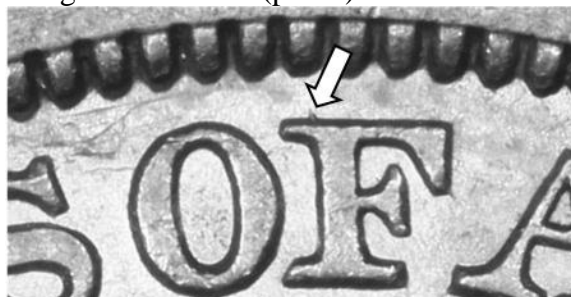


- All examples seen: die clash lines across Liberty's lap; small double lump on Liberty's right knee cap (photo). EDS: clash marks also in the field to the right of the drapery

Reverse A



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small tine on the upper left edge of the (O)F (photo)



- EDS: uncracked. LDS: die cracks thru the legend and denomination initially thru UNIT(ED) as above (photo); retained cud forming here as above
- All die states seen: very heavy die clash marks in the lower shield

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .020"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.213"	Rarity - 2
Drapery die state: Partial to none	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU58		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-1, Medium Date



Obverse 1



Reverse A (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1846-O

WB-2, Medium Date

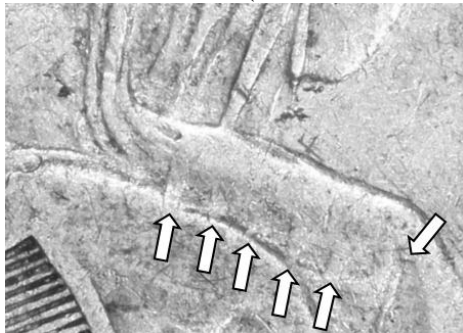
Obverse 1



- Date left with the knob of the 6 repunched (photo) with a weak die crack from the lower left base of the 1 to the dentil below



- Repunched knob of the 6 (photo); this is ML Beistle's so-called 6/5 (Beistle obverse 2)

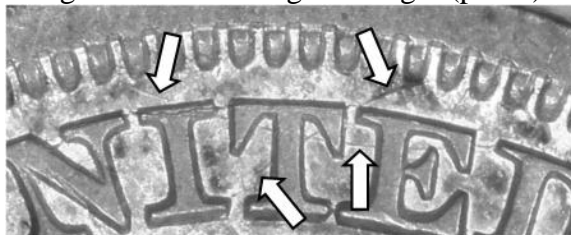


- Die clash lines across Liberty's lap; small double lump on Liberty's right knee cap (photo)

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark high and right (photo)



- All die states: crisscrossed die lines thru (UN)ITED (photo)



- LDS: die cracks thru legend, olive leaves, and denomination; prominently with cud forming above (U)NITE(D) (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the second use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .024"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.216"	Rarity - 3 LDS w/ cud: Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: MS63 LDS: XF40		EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-2, Medium Date



Obverse 1



Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

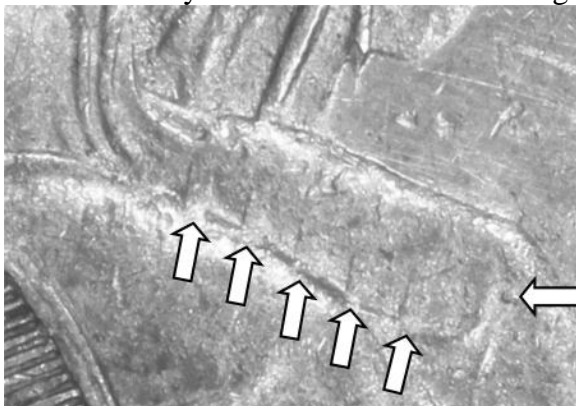
1846-O

WB-3, Medium Date

Obverse 1



- Date left with a die crack from the lower left base of the 1 to the dentil below and another die crack along the base of the date into the field right of the 6; note the weak upper left serif of the 1 and the weak lower edge of the rock support above the date (photo); the repunched knob of the 6 seen in earlier uses of this die (WB-1 and WB-2) is only faintly visible in early die states of this die marriage.



- Die clash lines across Liberty's lap; small lump on Liberty's right knee cap (photo)
- Die crack thru stars 2-7 and from dentil thru star 7 across Liberty's head to star 8; another from foot support to dentil at K-4

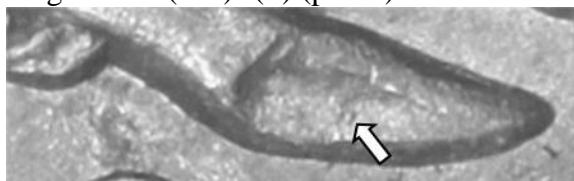
Reverse C



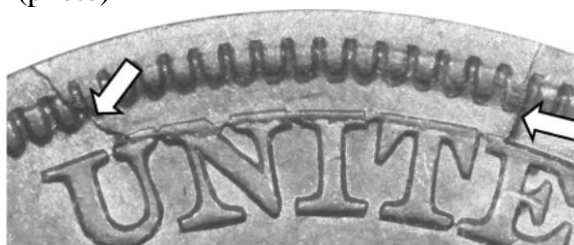
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small tine on the dentil below the lower right edge of the (HA)L(F) (photo)



- Small lump on the olive branch's recessed area (photo)



- LDS: die cracks thru most of the legend; VLDS with a retained cud above the UNITE(D) as above (photo)

This is the third and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .026"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.211"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS AU55		Coin from the Dick Osburn Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-3, Medium Date



Obverse 1



Reverse C (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

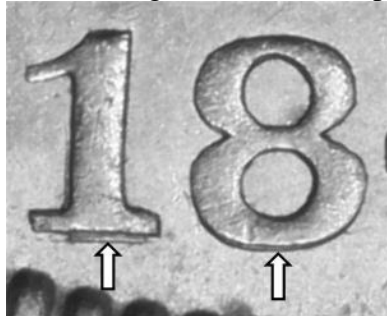
1846-O

WB-4, Medium date, 18 repunched north

Obverse 2



- Date left with the 18 repunched north and die crack from the lower left serif of the 4 to the dentil below the right side of the 6 (photo)



- 18 repunched north; prominently below the base of the 1 (photo), much weaker on the 8

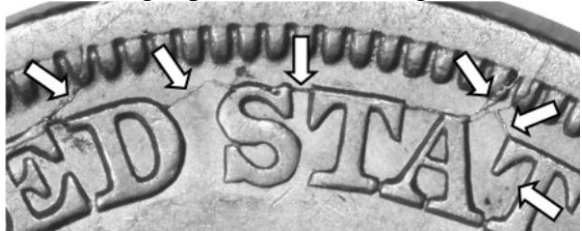


- Lump in the gown on Liberty's left leg (photo)
- LDS: weak die cracks thru stars 1-4, 11-13, and from Liberty's toe to the dentil at K-4

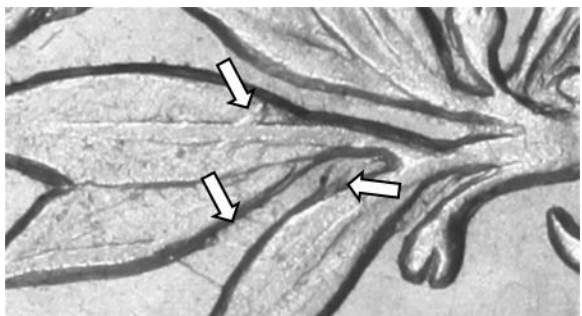
Reverse D



- Large O mintmark (left photo); LDS: with die crack from the dentil below D(OL) along the right side of the mintmark thru the olive branch (right photo) into the eagle



- LDS: die cracks thru most of the legend, olive leaves, and denomination; initially, along the top of letters (UNI)TED STAT(ES) (photo). EDS: uncracked



- Die damage (?) under and on the lower olive leaves (photo)

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .018"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.216"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-4, Medium Date, 18 repunched north



Obverse 2



Reverse D (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

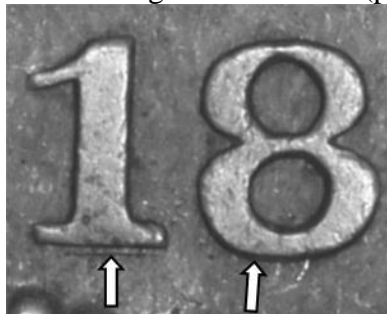
1846-O

WB-5, Medium Date, 18 repunched north

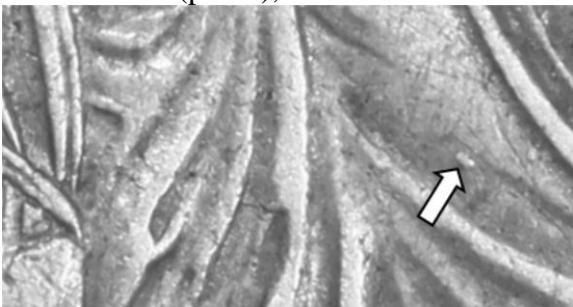
Obverse 2



- Date left with the 18 repunched north and die crack from the lower left serif of the 4 to the dentil below the right side of the 6 (photo)



- 18 repunched north; prominently below the base of the 1 (photo), much weaker on the 8



- Lump on Liberty's left leg (photo)
- Die cracks thru stars 1-7, 11-13, and from Liberty's toe to the dentil at K-4

Reverse E



- Large O mintmark high and tilting slightly left (photo)



- Small tine on upper edge of the eagle's left wing near the shield (photo)



- LDS: die cracks along the top of letters UNITED (photo above with cud) and the olive leaves (photo below)



- Clash in lower right shield
- This reverse die is transitional with 1847-O (reverse C).

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .019"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.216"	Rarity - 4 LDS w/ cud: Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial to none	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-5, Medium Date, 18 repunched north



Obverse 2



Reverse E (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

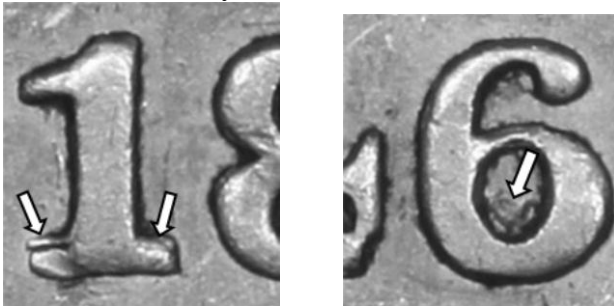
1846-O

WB-6, Medium Date, 1 6 repunched

Obverse 3



- Date left with the 1 and 6 repunched south (photo) often erroneously attributed as a 6/5



- 1 repunched south (left photo) and "crud" inside the lower loop of the 6 (right photo)

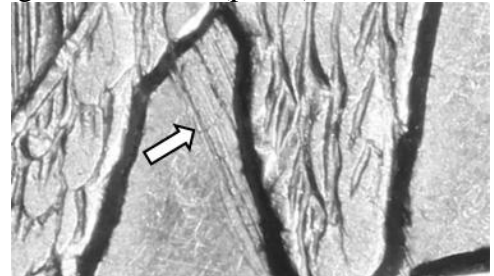


- Diagonal (NW to SE) lines in shield above the (LIBE)R(TY) (photo)

Reverse F



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Diagonal (NW to SE) die lines in the field below the eagle's right wing (photo); other die lines above AMERICA and (STA)TES
- EDS: uncracked



- LDS: die cracks thru most of legend and denomination; VLDS: double cud; along top of letters UNITED (photo above) and below HALF (photo below)



This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .020"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.201"	Rarity - 3 VLDS w/ cuds: Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full to partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 VLDS: VG8		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection VLDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-6, Medium Date, 1 6 repunched



Obverse 3



Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

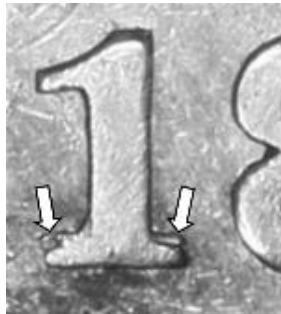
1846-O

WB-7, Medium Date, 1 6 repunched

Obverse 3



- Date left with the 1 repunched south (photo); the “crud” inside the lower loop of the 6 is polished away. Note: weak lower edge of the rock support



- 1 repunched south (left photo); the repunching “ball” on the 6 seen on the previous use of this die (with WB-6) is now polished away

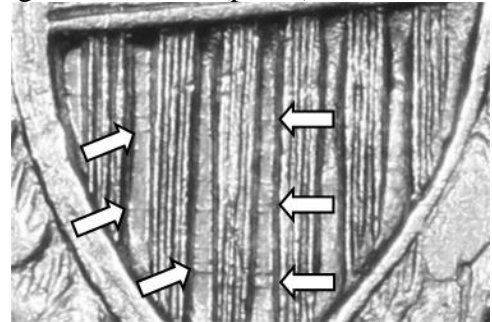


- Diagonal (NW to SE) lines in shield above the (LIBE)R(TY) (photo)
- LDS: die crack from star 8 to Liberty’s head

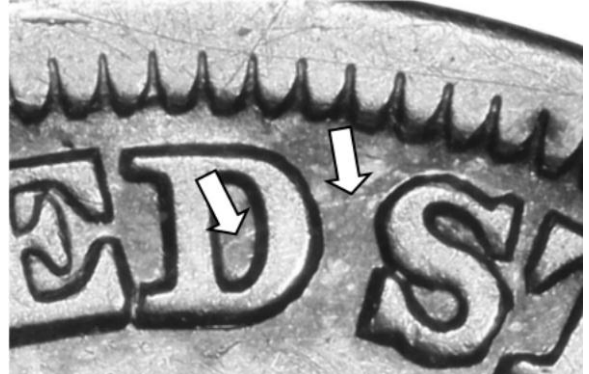
Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Horizontal die lines in the lower shield (photo)



- LDS: weak die cracks thru most of the legend and denomination initially between (UNITE)D S(TATES) (photo)
- Die lines above (AM)ERI(CA)
- Unfinished under olive leaves and arrowheads

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L4.5, .022”	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.204”	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-7, Large O



Obverse 3



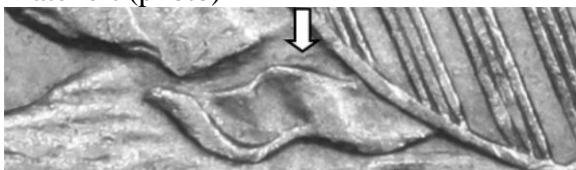
Reverse G

1846-O WB-8, Medium Date

Obverse 4



- Date left (photo)



- Weak die line above the upper edge of the ribbon (photo)
- No other visible die characteristics

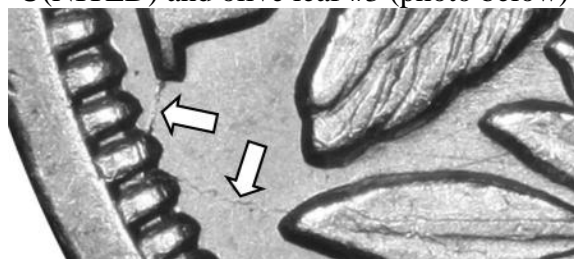
Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracks thru most of the legend and denomination prominently between (HAL)F D(OL) (photo above) and from dentils to the U(NITED) and olive leaf #3 (photo below)



- Faint die lines above (AM)ERI(CA)
- Clash in lower right shield
- Unfinished under olive leaves and arrowheads

This is the first use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .014"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.203"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-8, Medium Date



Obverse 4



Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1846-O

WB-9, Medium Date

Obverse 4

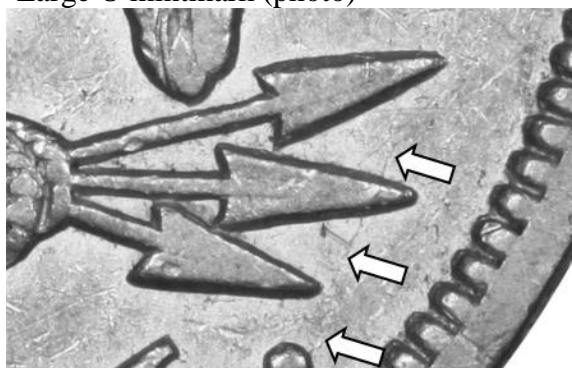


- Date left with weak lower edge of the rock support above the date (photo)
- No drapery (see photo on the next page)

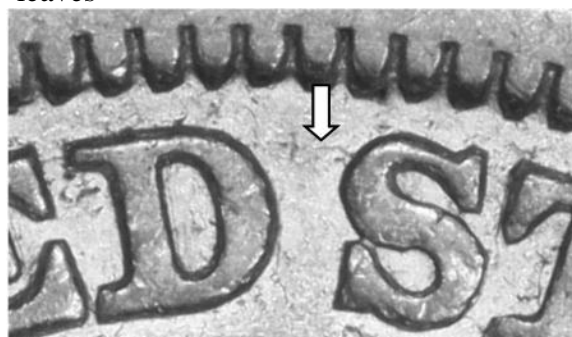
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracks thru arrowheads (photo above), between (UNITE)D S(TATES) (photo below); others from dentil below to D(OL), thru olive leaves



- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the second use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.203"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-9, Medium Date



Obverse 4



Reverse H

1846-O

WB-10, Medium Date

Obverse 4



- Date left with weak lower edge of the rock support above the date; LDS: very weak die crack along the base of the date to the dentil to right of the date (photo)

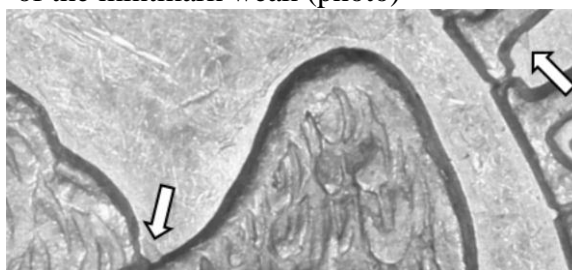


- Weak die cracks thru stars 1-6 to dentil above star 7, multiple cracks thru Liberty's head, star 8, (photo) and cap, and others thru stars 10-13

Reverse I



- Large O mintmark; all die states: lower edge of the mintmark weak (photo)



- EDS only: small die gouge at joint of upper right wing/neck and another from the right upright of the (A)M(ERICA) (photo)



- LDS: die cracks thru the legend and denomination; VLDS: shallow cud above UN(ITED) (photo)
- Weak bottom shield lines C1-3
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the third use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .018"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.207"	Rarity - 3
Draper die state: None	Foot support: Weak to none	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS60		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-10, Medium Date



Obverse 4



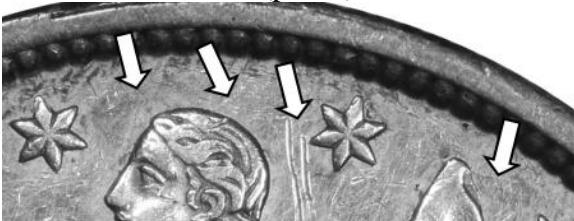
Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1846-O WB-11, Medium Date

Obverse 4



- Date left with very weak lower edge of the rock support above the date; weak die crack along the base of the date (photo)



- Weak die cracks thru stars 1-6 to dentil above star 7, multiple cracks thru Liberty's head, star 8, and cap (photo), and others thru stars 10-13

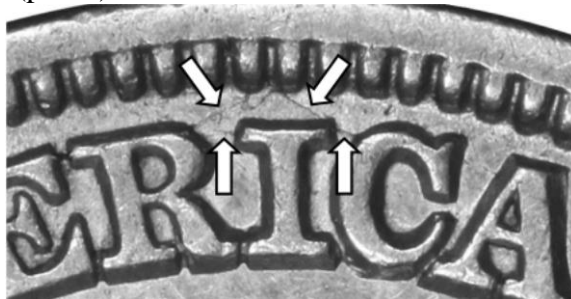
Reverse J



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Many horizontal die lines in the lower shield (photo)



- LDS: die cracks thru the entire legend, denomination, and olive leaves including prominent triangular shaped cracks above (A)M(E)RICA (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1845-O (Reverse J).

This is the fourth and final use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die in 1846.

Date grid: L5.5, .022"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.204"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Weak to none	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-11, Medium Date



Obverse 4



Reverse J (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

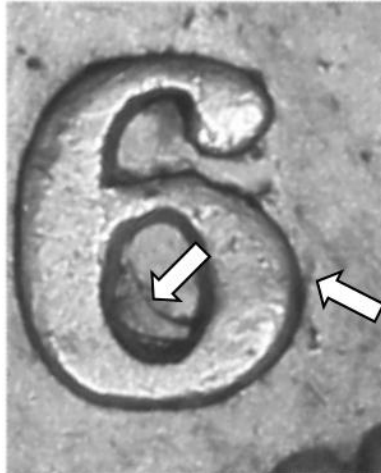
1846-O

WB-12, Medium Date, Repunched 6

Obverse 5



- Date left with the 6 repunched (photo)

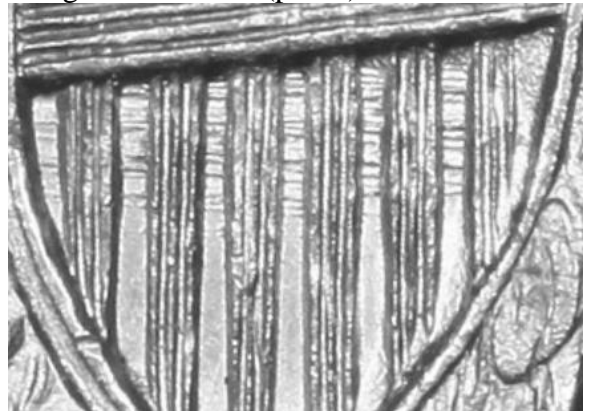


- Repunched 6: boldly inside the loop of the 6 and a faint portion outside the lower right of the 6 (photo). Sometimes erroneously attributed as an overdate, 6/5
- Unfinished under Liberty's chin
- Faint clash in the drapery below Liberty's elbow

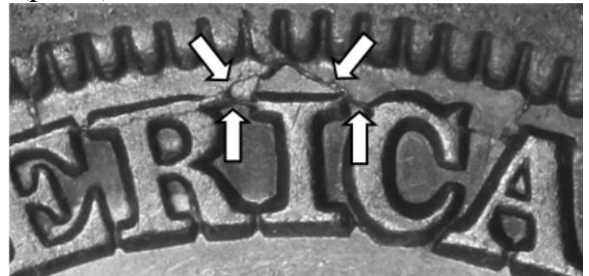
Reverse J



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Many horizontal die lines in the lower shield (photo)



- Die cracks thru the entire legend, denomination, and olive leaves including prominent triangular shaped cracks above (AME)RIC(A) (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1845-O (Reverse J).

This is the first use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .017"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-12, Medium date, Repunched 6



Obverse 5



Reverse J (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

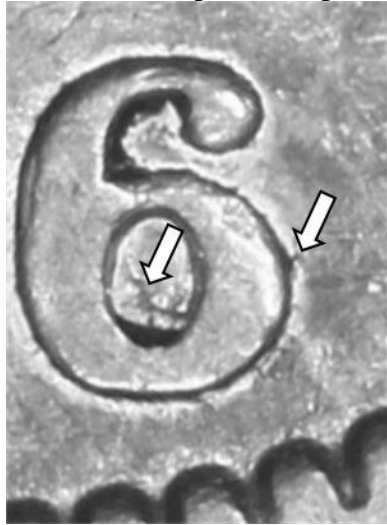
1846-O

WB-13, Medium date, Repunched 6

Obverse 5



- Date left with the 6 repunched (photo)

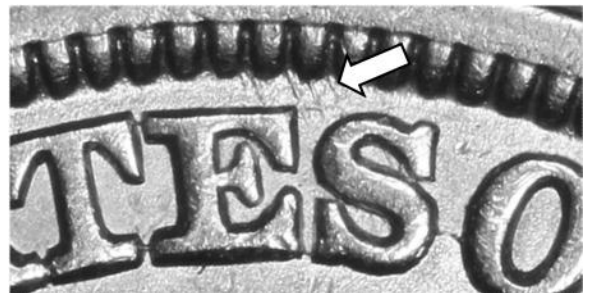


- Repunched 6: boldly inside the loop of the 6; EDS: faint repunching outside the lower right of the 6 (photo); LDS: this outside repunching is polished away. Sometimes erroneously attributed as a overdate, 6/5
- Unfinished under Liberty's chin
- Faint clash in the drapery below Liberty's elbow

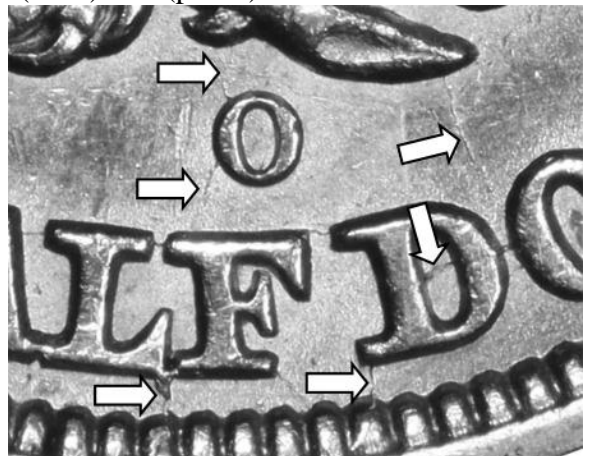
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo); die crack along the left side of the mintmark



- All die states: parallel die lines above (STA)TES (photo)



- Die cracks thru legend, denomination, and thru the left side of the mintmark (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1845-O (Reverse K).

This is the second use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .018"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-13, Medium date, Repunched 6



Obverse 5



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

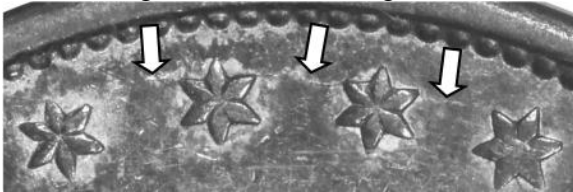
1846-O

WB-14, Medium date, Repunched 6

Obverse 5



- Date left with the repunching of the 6 not visible on most examples of this die marriage; now polished away (photo) with only faint remnants visible on a few examples seen. Die crack along the base of the digits of the date



- Die crack thru stars 2-5 (photo) and 9-13
- Unfinished under Liberty's chin
- Faint clash in the drapery below Liberty's elbow

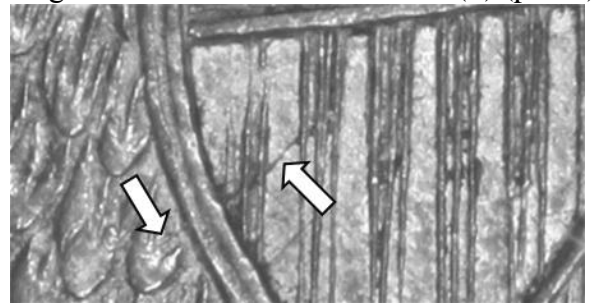
Reverse L



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die crack thru legend, denomination, and prominently, on all examples seen, from the eagle's head to the dentil above O(F) (photo)



- Another prominent die crack thru the lower left of the shield (photo). Note also the "hole" at the top of shield lines A1-3

This is the third use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .019"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.209"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: NGC AU53		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-14, Medium date, Repunched 6



Obverse 5



Reverse L (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

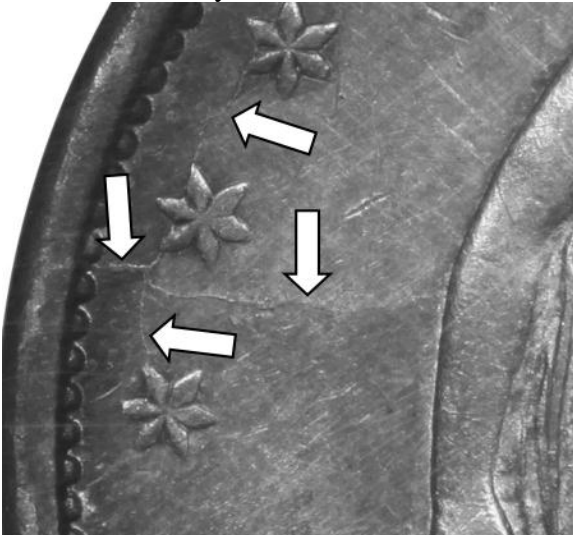
1846-O

WB-15, Medium date, Repunched 6

Obverse 5



- Date left with the repunching of the 6 not visible on this die marriage; now polished away (photo). Die crack along the base of the digits of the date barely visible

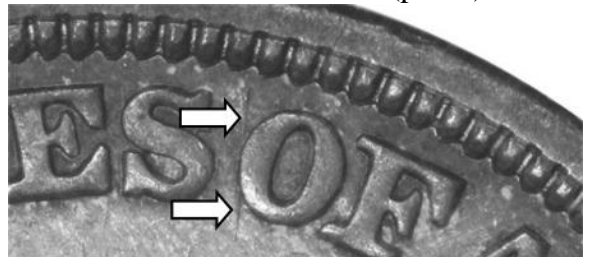


- Die crack from rock thru stars 1-5, from rim between stars 2-3 to Liberty's left elbow (photo) and from star 8 thru cap thru stars 9-13; another from rock support below foot to dentils at K-4
- Clash in the drapery below Liberty's elbow

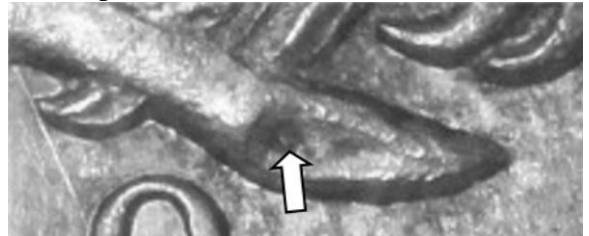
Reverse M



- Large O mintmark with diagonal die line along the left side of the mintmark (photo)



- Vertical die line along the left side of the letter O(F) (photo)



- Small lump on the olive branch's recessed area (photo)
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the fourth use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .020"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: NGC MS61		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-15, Medium date, Repunched 6



Obverse 5 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



Reverse M

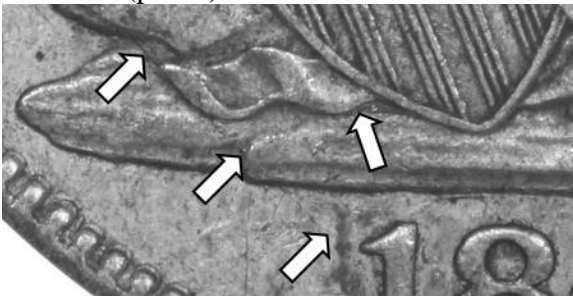
1846-O

WB-16, Medium Date, Doubled Die Obverse

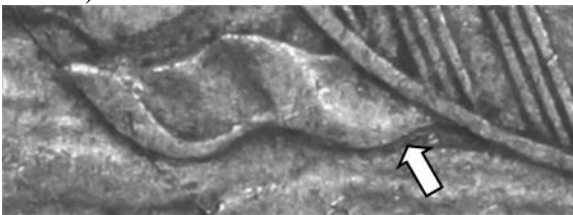
Obverse 6



- Date left (photo)



- Die crack from left upright of the 1 diagonally thru the rock support, along the ribbon, to the rock; weak doubled die most obvious on the lower edge of the ribbon (photos above and below)



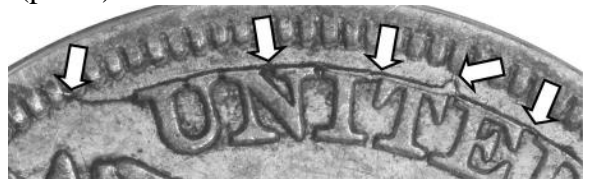
Reverse M



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lump on the olive branch's recessed area (photo)



- Die cracks thru legend; UNITED as above (photo)



- Rare VLDS: cud above UNIT(ED) (photo). Does anyone have a high grade cud coin?
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the first use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .020"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.214"	Rarity - 3 VLDS w/ cud: Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: PCGS XF45 VLDS: G4		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection VLDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-16, Medium Date, Doubled Die Obverse



Obverse 6



Reverse M (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

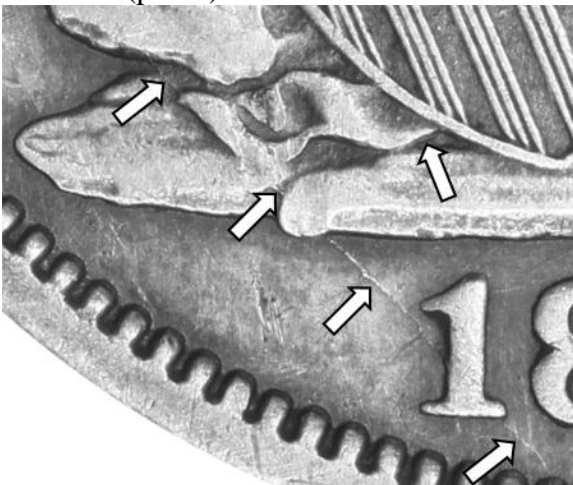
1846-O

WB-17, Medium Date, Doubled Die Obverse

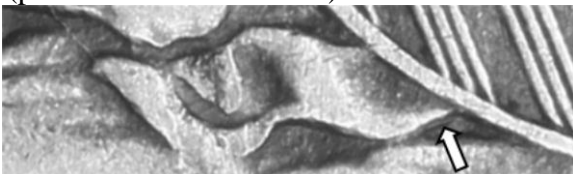
Obverse 6



- Date left (photo)



- Die crack from dentil below the left side of the 8 diagonally thru the 1 thru the rock support, along the ribbon, to the rock; weak doubled die most obvious on the lower edge of the ribbon (photos above and below)



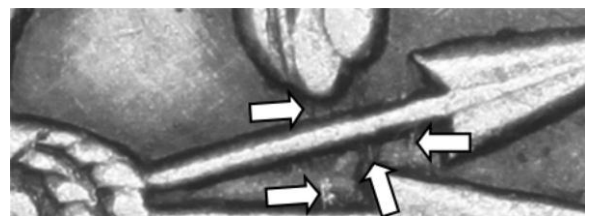
Reverse N



- Large O mintmark at far right and tilting to the left (photo)



- Die cracks thru legend and olive leaves with a cud above (UN)ITE(D) (photo above) and along the top of letters OF to dentil above A(MERICA) (photo below)



- Vertical die lines from right wing tip thru upper arrow shaft (photo)

This is the second use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Only one example of this die marriage has been seen by Wiley and Bugert; others likely exist.

Date grid: L5, .022"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.213"	Rarity - 6
Dravery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-17, Medium Date, Doubled Die Obverse



Obverse 6



Reverse N (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1846-O

WB-18, Medium Date, Doubled Die Obverse

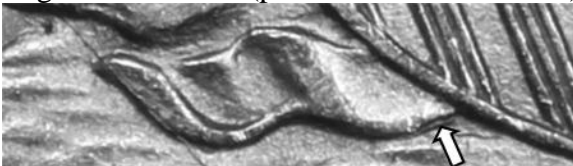
Obverse 6



- Date left (photo)



- Die crack from dentil below the left side of the 8 diagonally thru the 1 thru the rock support, along the ribbon, to the rock, now to star 1; weak doubled die most obvious on the lower edge of the ribbon (photos above and below)



- Die cracks now around and thru stars 5-13

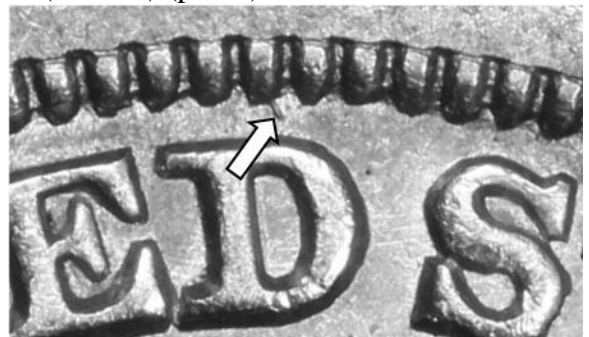
Reverse O



- Large O mintmark high in crotch (photo)



- Heavy die line from the upper left serif of the U(NITED) (photo)



- Small tine from the dentil above (UNITE)D (photo)
- Weak die lines above (STA)TES
- Die cracks along base of letters (HA)LF DO(L) and from arrowheads

This is the third use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L4.5, .021"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.216"	Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS62		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-18, Medium Date, Doubled Die Obverse



Obverse 6



Reverse O

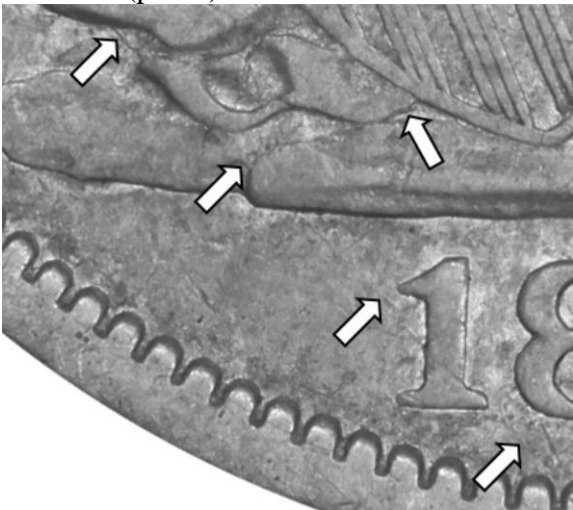
1846-O

WB-19, Medium Date, Doubled Die Obverse

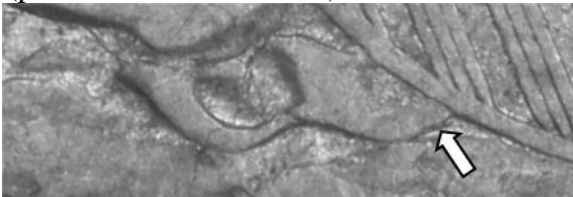
Obverse 6



- Date left (photo)



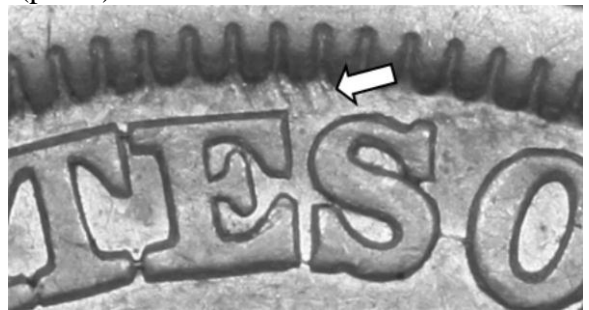
- Die crack from dentil below the left side of the 8 diagonally thru the 1 thru the rock support, along the ribbon, to the rock; weak doubled die most obvious on the lower edge of the ribbon (photos above and below)



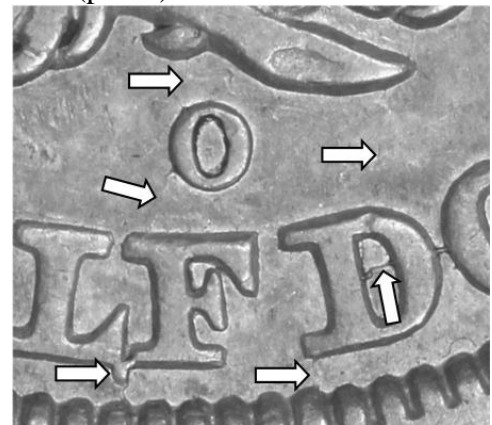
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark centered below the crotch (photo)



- Parallel die lines above (STA)TES now weaker than on the previous use of this die on WB-13 (photo)



- Die cracks thru legend, denomination, and thru the left side of the mintmark (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1845-O (Reverse K).

This is the fourth use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .022"	145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-19, Medium Date, Doubled Die Obverse



Obverse 6



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1846-O

WB-20, Medium Date, Doubled Die Obverse

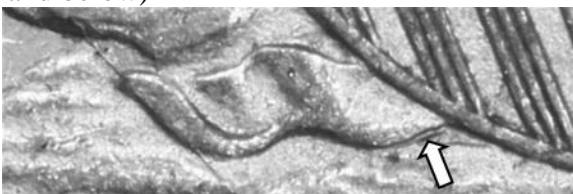
Obverse 6



- Date left (photo)



- Die crack from dentil below the left side of the 8 diagonally thru the 1 thru the rock support, along the ribbon, to the rock, thru star 1 to dentil by star 2; weak doubled die most obvious on the lower edge of the ribbon (photos above and below)

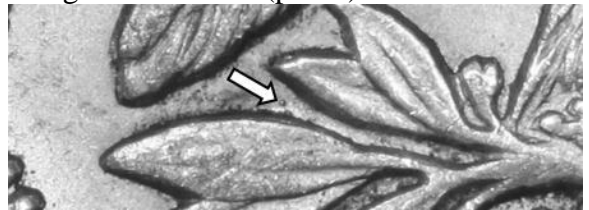


- Die cracks around and thru stars 5-13

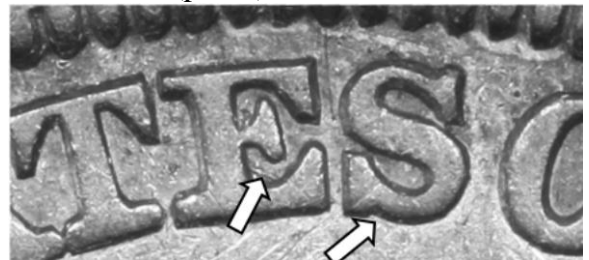
Reverse P



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lump in the recessed area between olive leaves #3-4 (photo)



- Diagonal (NW to SE) die line thru the (STAT)ES (photo)
- LDS with die cracks between (AMERI)CA and below (HAL)F to D(OL)
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the fifth and final use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

The differences between the two reed counts cannot be ascertained by exact die state. Counting the reeds is the only method of distinguishing the two counts, 145 and 146 reeds.

Date grid: L4.5, .022"	EDS: 146 reeds LDS: 145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.207"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: VF30 LDS: AU53		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1846-O

WB-20, Medium Date, Doubled Die Obverse



Obverse 6



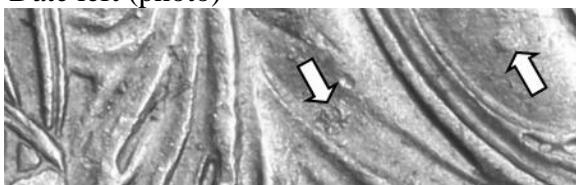
Reverse P

1846-O WB-21, Medium Date

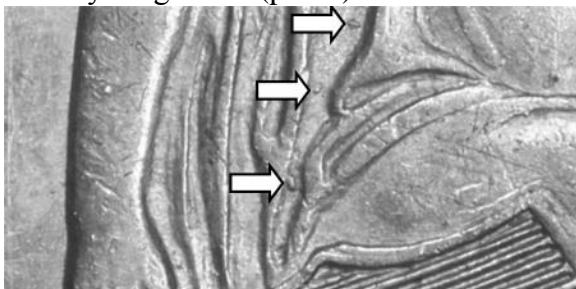
Obverse 7



- Date left (photo)



- Large splotchy rust lump on Liberty's gown to the right of the scroll and another lump on Liberty's right calf (photo)

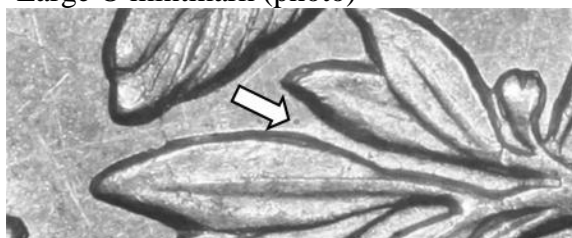


- Small lumps in Liberty's gown along her left arm (photo); other lumps: one in field in front of the instep of Liberty's foot and others near Liberty's right elbow
- Die crack thru stars 9-12
- Rim cuds from K-6 to K-11

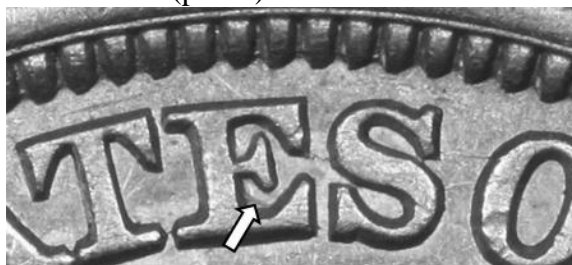
Reverse P



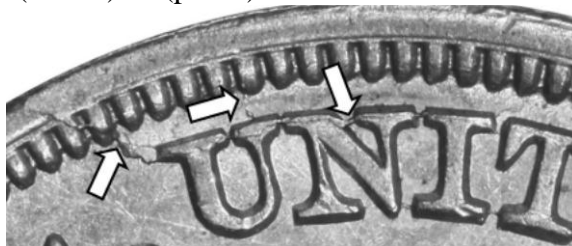
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lump in the recessed area between olive leaves #3-4 (photo)



- Diagonal (NW to SE) die line thru the (STAT)ES (photo)



- Die cracks thru the legend, denomination, and olive leaves; along top of letters UNIT(ED) as shown (photo)
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the only use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .021"	146 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.206"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-21, Medium Date



Obverse 7



Reverse P (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

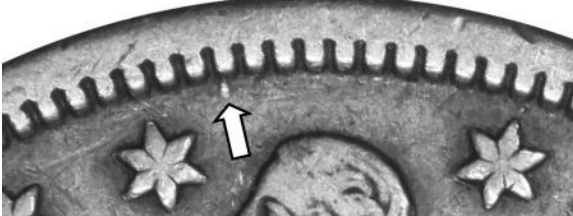
1846-O

WB-22, Large Date

Obverse 8



- Large date right (photo); slightly higher and more to the right than obverse 9

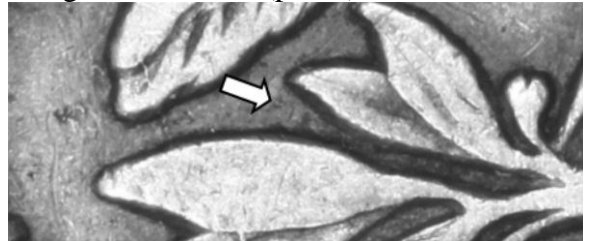


- Tine from dentil to right of star 7 (photo)
- Some examples seen: clash in drapery below Liberty's elbow

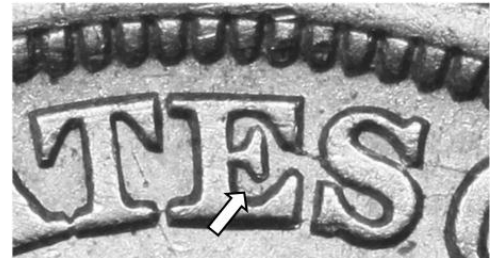
Reverse P



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lump in the recessed area between olive leaves #3-4 (photo)



- Diagonal (NW to SE) die line thru the (STAT)ES (photo)



- Die cracks thru the legend, denomination, and olive leaves; along top of letters UNIT(ED) with cud forming (photo)
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the first use of this obverse die and third and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.217"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-106.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-22, Large Date



Obverse 8



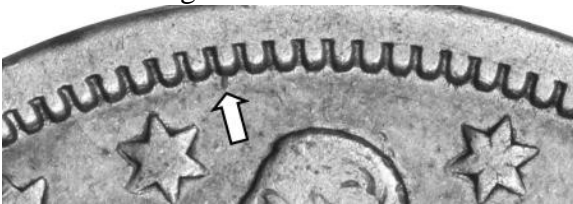
Reverse P (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1846-O WB-23, Large Date

Obverse 8



- Large date right (photo); slightly higher and more to the right than obverse 9

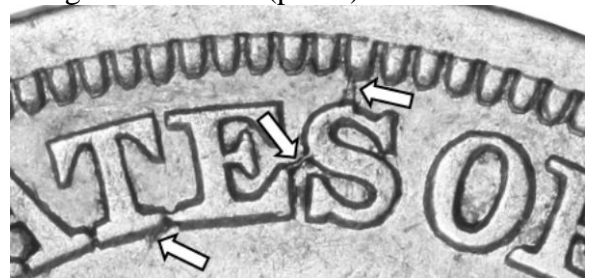


- Tine from dentil to right of star 7 (photo)

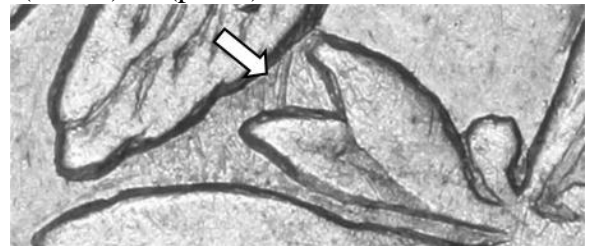
Reverse Q



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracks thru legend; initially, thru (STAT)ES (photo)



- Scattered die lines between the upper olive leaves and the eagle's left wing (photo)



- LDS: additional die crack from the eagle's left wing thru the beak into the field (photo)

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M3, .018"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.218"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-106.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-23, Large Date



Obverse 8



Reverse Q (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1846-O WB-24, Large Date

Obverse 9

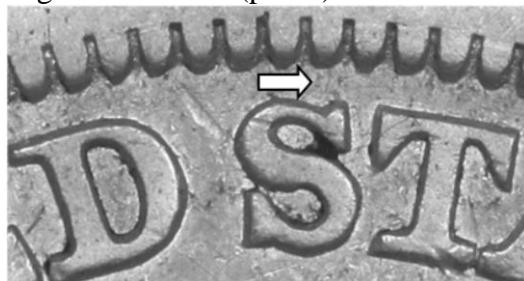


- Large date centered (photo); date slightly lower and more to the left than obverse 8
- Rusty die

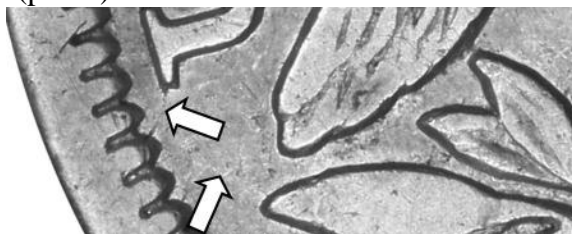
Reverse R



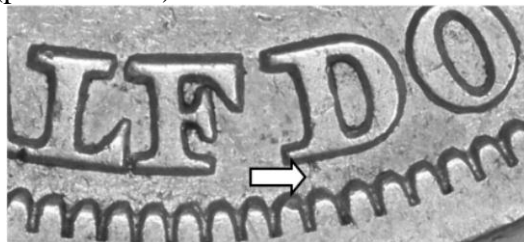
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small tine from dentil above S(TATES) (photo)



- LDS: die cracks around olive leaves, UNITED (photo above), and from the dentil to D(OL) (photo below)



- This reverse die is transitional with 1847-O (Reverse J).

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.215"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-106.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-24, Large Date



Obverse 9



Reverse R

1846-O WB-25, Large Date

Obverse 9



- Large date centered (photo); date slightly lower and more to the left than obverse 8
- Rusty die
- Faint die crack thru stars 4-7

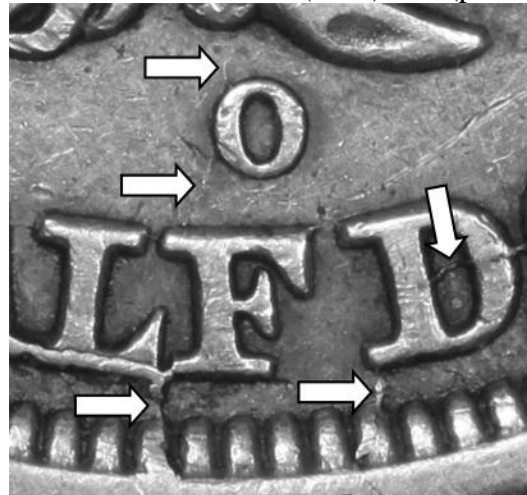
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Parallel die lines above (STA)TES (photo)



- Heavy die cracks thru legend, denomination, and thru the left side of the mintmark (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1845-O (Reverse D).

This is the second use of this obverse die and third and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .017"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.220"	Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: VF25		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-106.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-25, Large Date



Obverse 9



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1846-O WB-26, Large Date

Obverse 9



- Large date centered (photo); date slightly lower and more to the left than obverse 8
- Rusty die
- Faint die crack thru stars 4-7 to Liberty's head; another thru stars 10-11

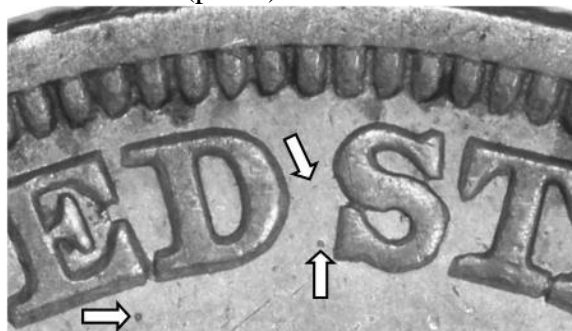
Reverse S



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Unfinished under olive leaves and die crack from H(ALF) to dentil at K-7 off the tip of olive leaf #1 (photo)



- Small lump in the field below (UNIT)E(D) and to the left of the S(TATES); faint die crack between (UNIT)ED S(TATES) (photo)

This is the third use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2.5, .018"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.216"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS63		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-106.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-26, Large Date



Obverse 9



Reverse S

1846-O WB-27, Large Date

Obverse 9



- Large date centered (photo) with a die crack along the base of the digits; date slightly lower and more to the left than obverse 8
- Rusty die
- Faint die crack thru stars 2-7 to Liberty's head to star 8; another thru stars 10-11

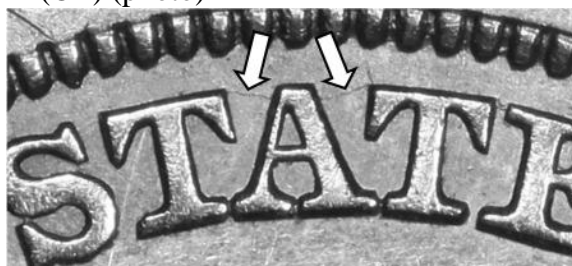
Reverse T



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- Vertical shield line B2 faintly doubled



- LDS: die crack from (HAL)F to dentil below D(OL) (photo)



- LDS: arching die crack along the top of letters (S)TAT(ES) (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1847-O (reverse I).

This is the fourth and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die in 1847-O.

Date grid: M2.5, .018"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.218"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-106.		Version 4.68	

1846-O
WB-27, Large Date



Obverse 9



Reverse T

1847-O

To a collector, this date has the most going for it of all the early New Orleans half dollars. If he/she wanted to collect all of the die marriages for one date, have a lot of fun searching for them, and have a very difficult challenge, this is it. Randy Wiley's and my enthusiasm for this date has been contagious over the years but, with a high 2,584,000 piece mintage, there are plenty of 1847-O half dollars still extant for searching and for cherry picking. This date has twenty-eight die marriages with a multitude of attractive characteristics to hold anyone's attention: easily distinguishable and interesting die marriages, a doubled date, a doubled die, repunched dates, cuds, multiple reed counts, diameter differences, and many rare die marriages. Completing a die marriage set of this date would be extremely challenging.

Twenty-eight die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.
















Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
2,584,000	Requested	-	-	-	3 (144, 145, 147)
	Shipped	-	12	18	
	Known	28	8	12	

The number of die marriages above includes three transitional reverse dies from 1846-O and one transitional reverse die to 1848-O.

1847-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
L2.5, .014"	WB-12
L2.5, .014"	WB-13
L3 , .012"	WB-11
L3.5, .014"	WB-8
L3.5, .015"	WB-9
L3.5, .016"	WB-10
L3.5, .018"	WB-14
L3.5, .018"	WB-15
L4.5, .023"	WB-16
L5 , .019"	WB-4
L5.5, .010"	WB-22
L5.5, .013"	WB-23
L5.5, .013"	WB-24
L5.5, .013"	WB-28
L5.5, .015"	WB-1
L5.5, .015"	WB-2
L5.5, .016"	WB-3
L5.5, .020"	WB-5
L5.5, .022"	WB-17
L5.5, .023"	WB-7
L5.5, .024"	WB-25
L5.5, .024"	WB-26
L5.5, .024"	WB-27
L5.5, .026"	WB-18
M1 , .020"	WB-19
M1 , .020"	WB-20
M1 , .022"	WB-21
M1 , .022"	WB-6

1847-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions

 <p>Reverse A, WB-1</p>	 <p>Reverse B, WB-2</p>	 <p>Reverse C, WB-3</p>
 <p>Reverse D, WB-4, 5, 9, 27, 28</p>	 <p>Reverse E, WB-6</p>	 <p>Reverse F, WB-7, 8</p>
 <p>Reverse G, WB-10, 17, 20, 23</p>	 <p>Reverse H, WB-11</p>	 <p>Reverse I, WB-12, 14</p>
 <p>Reverse J, WB-13, 15</p>	 <p>Reverse K, WB-16, 24, 25</p>	 <p>Reverse L, WB-18, 19</p>
 <p>Reverse M, WB-21</p>	 <p>Reverse N, WB-22</p>	 <p>Reverse O, WB-26</p>

1847-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Die cracks above and thru the legend including STATES to rim	Diagonal die line in the eagle's tail feathers below the shield	Small tine on upper edge of the eagle's left wing	Wavy die line thru the eagle's tail feathers	Lump the right of the upper arrowhead	Die lines above the letters (AM)ERIC(A)	Die line on the olive stem	Lump in field beneath the left wing	Arching die crack along the top of (S)TAT(ES)	Mintmark weak at bottom
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Curved shaped die chip in the rock support above the date	1	WB-1	WB-2	WB-3	WB-4						
Parallel die lines above the shield	2				WB-5	WB-6	WB-7				
Die lines in the rock along the shield's left edge	3				WB-9		WB-8	WB-10		WB-14	WB-15
Two small lumps in Liberty's gown	4								WB-11	WB-12	WB-13
Vertical die line from Liberty's right foot	6							WB-17			
Doubled obverse die	7				WB-27			WB-20			
Repunched 7	8				WB-28			WB-23			

1847-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Two die lines from dentils above (UN)ITE(D)	Die crack from the left base of the H(ALF) to olive leaves	Mintmark nearly touching the olive stem	Small lump between the olive leaves	Large O mintmark
		K	L	M	N	O
Horizontal die lines above (LIBE)RTY	5	WB-16				
Vertical die line from Liberty's right foot	6		WB-18			
Doubled obverse die	7	WB-25	WB-19	WB-21		WB-26
Repunched 7	8	WB-24			WB-22	

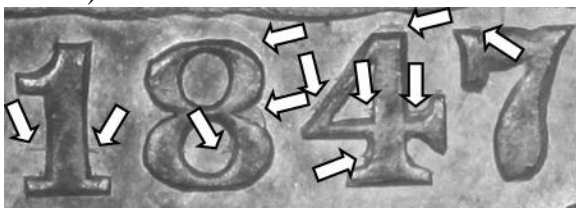
1847-O

WB-1, Large O, Doubled Date

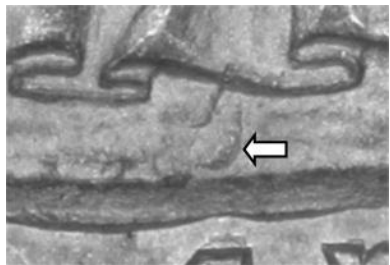
Obverse 1



- Date centered and doubled (photo above and below)



- Date repunched obliquely south almost a third of the height of the date (photo); the base of the first 1 crosses the stand of the final 1, the first 8 shows above the final 8, remnants of the first 4 show within the final 4, and a small segment of the first 7 shows above the final 7.

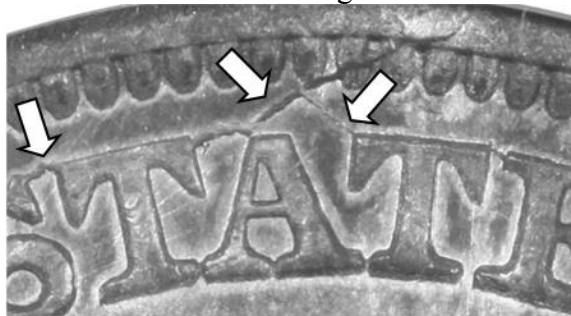


- Curved shaped die chip in the rock support above the 4 in the date (photo); this die chip is sometimes misattributed as a 7 in the rock.

Reverse A



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right



- All examples seen: die cracks above and thru the legend including STATES to rim (photo above); others above UNITED forming a retained cud (photo below); full cud not currently known but, if so, would be very rare



This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .015"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.211"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS MS63 - James B. Pryor coin		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103 and <u>Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume II</u> , pages 249-251.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-1, Large O, Doubled Date



Obverse 1



Reverse A (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

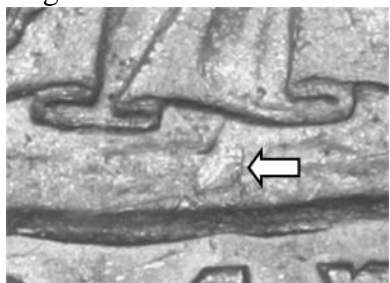
1847-O

WB-2, Large O, Doubled Date

Obverse 1



- Date centered and doubled. Later die states show differing amounts of the date's repunching:
 - EDS: full repunching as seen on WB-1 (photo above)
 - VLDS: repunching shows only on the 4.
- See WB-1 for a full description of this date's repunching.

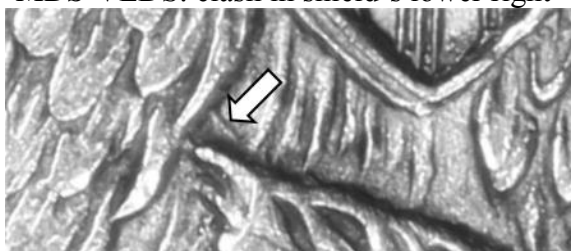


- Curved shaped die chip in the rock support above the 4 in the date (photo); this die chip is sometimes misattributed as a 7 in the rock.
- LDS: die crack from the ribbon tip to the rock directly above

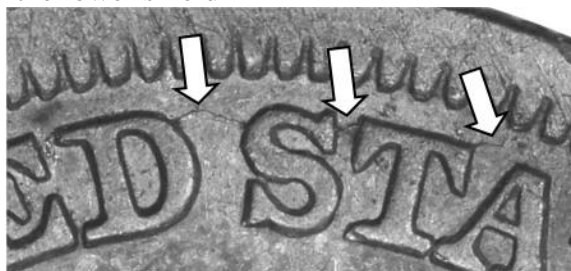
Reverse B



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- MDS-VLDS: clash in shield's lower right



- All die states: diagonal (NW to SE) die line in the eagle's tail feathers below the shield (photo); another in the upper right corner of the lower shield



- EDS uncracked; MDS-VLDS: die cracks thru the legend and denomination, along the left side of the mintmark and thru and between the letters UNITED STATES (photo). Note differences of these die cracks with WB-1.

This is the second use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Note: Even in an EDS with a full doubled date, this die marriage is much more common than WB-1.

Date grid: L5.5, .015"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 2
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU53 VLDS: XF40		EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection VLDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-2, Large O, Doubled Date



Obverse 1



Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

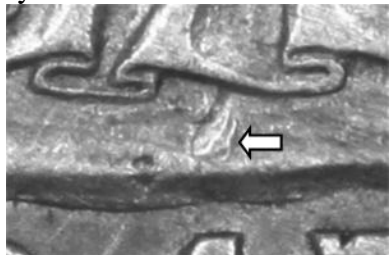
1847-O

WB-3, Large O, Doubled Date

Obverse 1



- Date centered (photo); very weak doubling on the upright of the 4 or no doubling shows on date as seen on earlier uses of this die in WB-1 and early die states of WB-2



- Curved shaped die chip in the rock support above the 4 in the date (photo); this die chip is sometimes misattributed as a 7 in the rock.
- Die crack from the ribbon tip into the rock now shows in the rock support below the ribbon

Reverse C



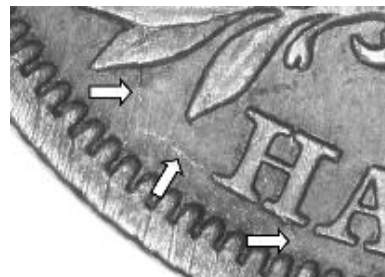
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small tine on upper edge of the eagle's left wing near the shield (photo)



- All dies states: cud along the top of letters UNIT(ED) (photo) and die cracks thru the olive leaves (photo below). Note: this cud and these die cracks also show on the 1846 use of this die.



- All die states: clash in shield's lower right
- This reverse die is transitional with 1846-O (reverse E).

This is the third use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die in 1847.

Date grid: L5.5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak to none	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-3, Large O, Doubled Date



Obverse 1



Reverse C (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

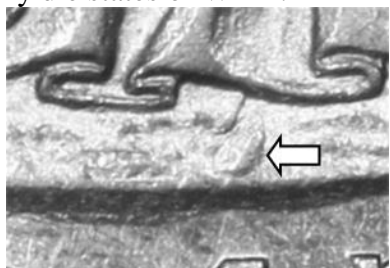
1847-O

WB-4, Large O, Doubled Date

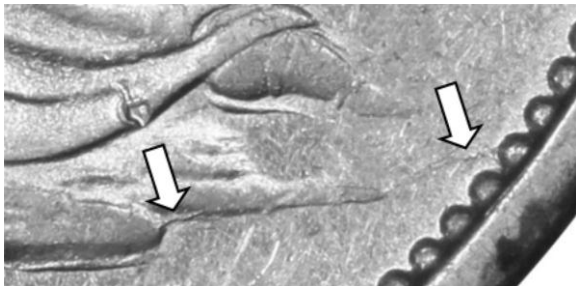
Obverse 1



- Date centered (photo); no doubling shows on date as seen on earlier uses of this die in WB-1 and early die states of WB-2.



- Curved shaped die chip in the rock support above the 4 in the date (photo); this die chip is sometimes misattributed as a 7 in the rock.

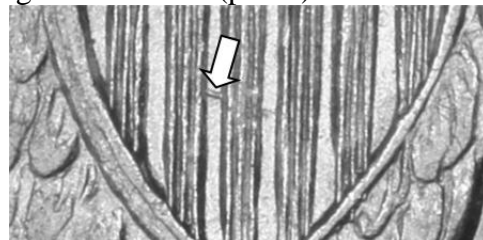


- LDS: die crack in the rock support below foot to K-4 (photo)
- The die crack the the ribbon is slightly more advanced on this die marriage.

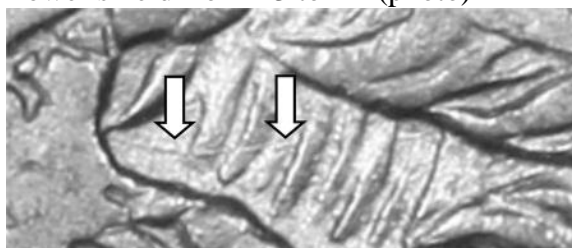
Reverse D



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Nearly horizontal die line in the middle of the lower shield from B3 to D1 (photo)



- Wavy die line thru the eagle's tail feathers above the left claw (photo)



- EDS: uncracked; M-LDS: die crack starting from the dentil below the left side of the (D)O(L) to the left base of (DO)L (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1848-O (reverse B).

This is the fourth and final use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .019"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.213"	Rarity - 3
Draperies die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-4, Large O, Doubled Date



Obverse 1



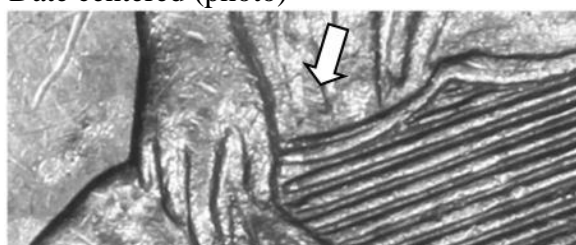
Reverse D

1847-O WB-5, Large O

Obverse 2

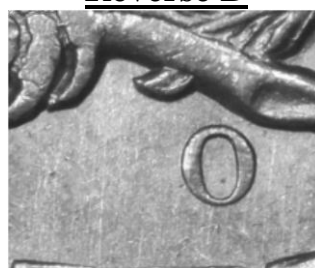


- Date centered (photo)

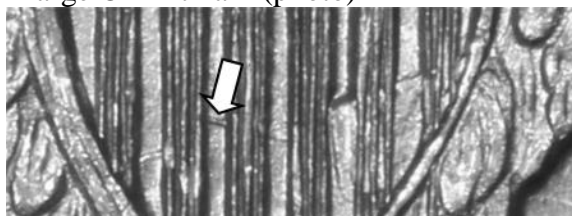


- Parallel die lines above the shield in Liberty's gown to the right of the left hand (photo); others in Liberty's gown thru right edge of shield above the scroll end
- Clash lines across Liberty's lap; another in the field to the right of Liberty's right elbow
- Some stars weakly struck

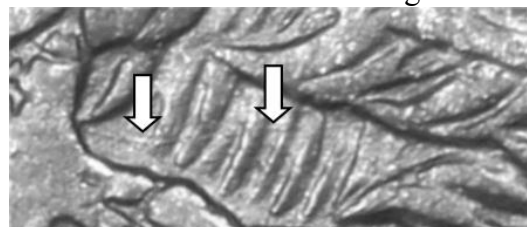
Reverse D



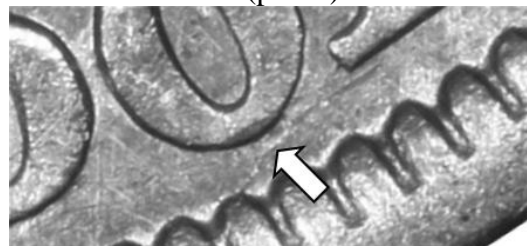
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Nearly horizontal die line in the middle of the lower shield from A3 to D1 (photo); note also the clash in the shield's lower right



- Wavy die line thru the eagle's tail feathers above the left claw (photo)



- Die crack from the dentil below the left side of the (D)O(L) to the left base of (DO)L (photo); others in the legend
- This reverse die is transitional with 1848-O (reverse B).

This is the first use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .020"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.213"	Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-5, Large O



Obverse 2



Reverse D

1847-O WB-6, Large O

Obverse 2



- Date right (photo)

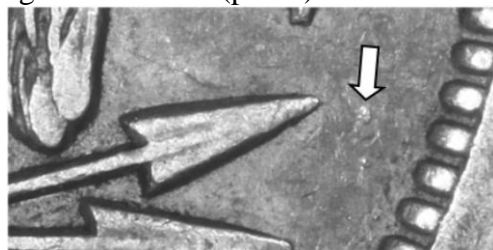


- Parallel die lines above the shield in Liberty's gown to the right of the left hand (photo); others in Liberty's gown thru right edge of shield above the scroll end
- Clash lines across Liberty's lap and in the field to the right of Liberty's right elbow seen on WB-5 now much weaker and gone on LDS
- Some stars weakly struck

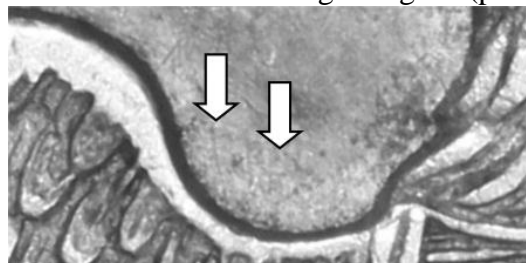
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Lump in the field to the right of the upper arrowhead seen on coins grading F+ (photo)



- EDS: vertical die lines along the upper edge of the eagle's left wing near the shield (photo)



- LDS: die cracks along the top of the legend's letters (photo)

This is the second use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

At least two collars with the same reed count but different diameters were used on this die marriage.

Date grid: M1, .022"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.205-1.218"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: VF35		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-6, Large O



Obverse 2



Reverse E

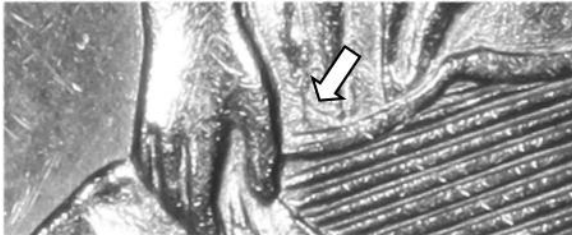
1847-O

WB-7, Repunched Mintmark

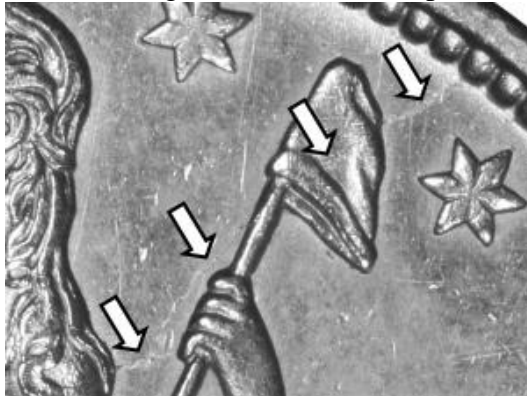
Obverse 2



- Date centered (photo) with a die crack along the base of the digits of the date

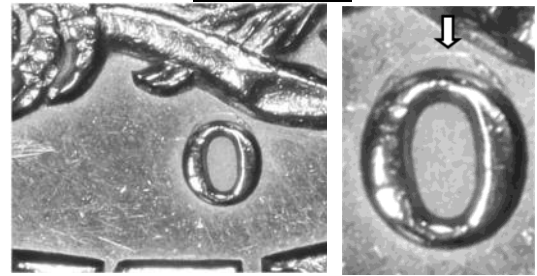


- Parallel die lines above the shield in Liberty's gown to the right of the left hand (photo)



- Die crack from Liberty's right shoulder diagonally thru the cap to the rim (photo); others thru stars 1-3 and 5-6
- Some stars weakly struck

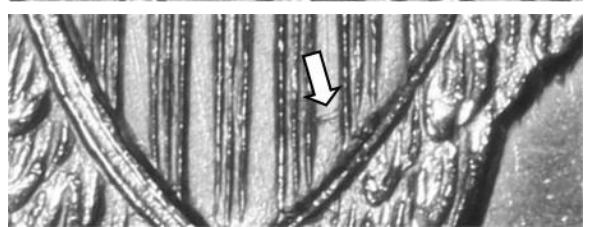
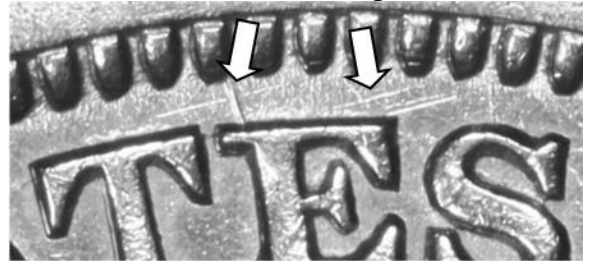
Reverse F



- Large O mintmark repunched south (photo); the first punching nearly touches the stem



- Many parallel and diagonal die lines above the letters (AM)ERIC(A) (photo above) and fewer above and thru (STA)TES (photo below)



- Horizontal die line in the lower shield between shield lines D3 and E1 (photo)
- Unfinished below the olive leaves
- Weak die cracks around most of the legend

This is the third use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .023"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.209"	Rarity - 5
Draperies die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55 proof-like		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-7, Repunched Mintmark



Obverse 2



Reverse F

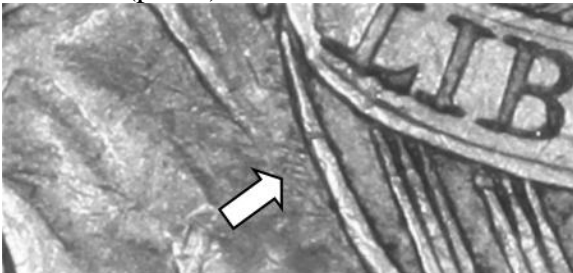
1847-O

WB-8, Repunched Mintmark

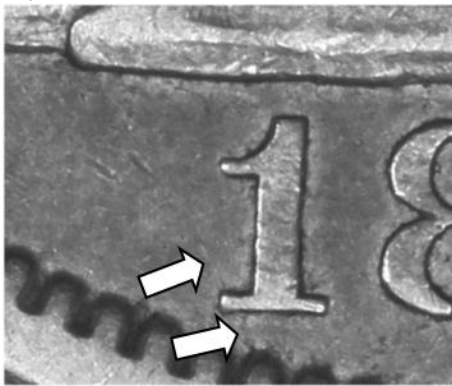
Obverse 3



- Date left (photo)

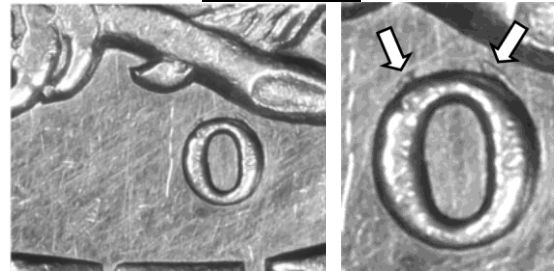


- Die lines in the rock along the shield's left edge (photo)



- LDS only: die crack from dentil below the 1 thru the base into the field to rock support (photo)

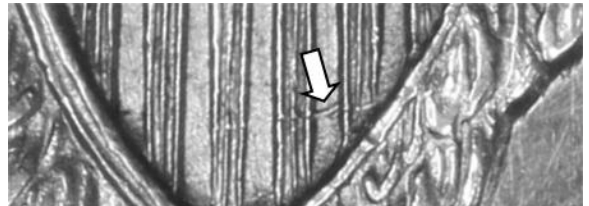
Reverse F



- Large O mintmark repunched south (photo); the first punching nearly touches the stem



- EDS: many parallel and diagonal die lines above the letters (AM)ERIC(A) (photo) and fewer above (STA)TES; LDS coins: these lines are much fewer and weaker.



- Horizontal die line in the lower shield between shield lines D3 and E1 (photo)
- Unfinished below the olive leaves
- LDS: die cracks around most of the legend and denomination. See enhanced die cracks on the next page.
- LDS: clash in shield's lower right

This is the second use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L3.5, .014"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.209"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full to Partial	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU58 proof-like LDS: XF45		EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-8, Repunched Mintmark



Obverse 3



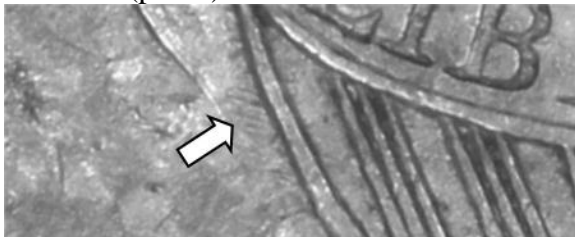
Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O WB-9, Large O

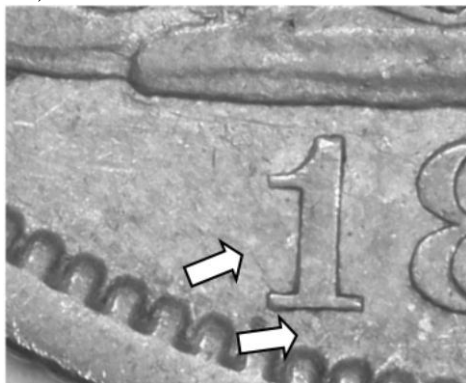
Obverse 3



- Date left (photo)



- Die lines in the rock along the shield's left edge (photo)

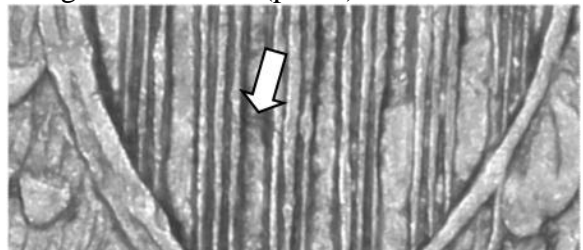


- All die states: die crack from dentil below the 1 thru the base into the field to rock support (photo)

Reverse D



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Nearly horizontal die line in the middle of the lower shield (photo); note also the clash in the shield's lower right
- The wavy die line thru the eagle's tail feathers above the left claw seen on the previous uses of this die (WB-4 and 5) is now very weak.
- All die states seen: die crack from the dentil below the left side of the (D)O(L) to the left base of (D)O(L)
- LDS: die crack along the top of letters UNITED STA(TES)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1848-O (reverse B).

This is the first use of this obverse die and third use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L3.5, .015"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.212"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-9, Large O



Obverse 3



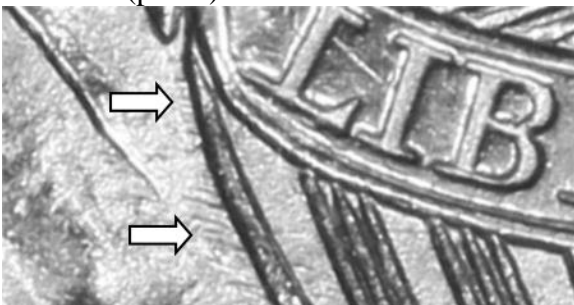
Reverse D

1847-O WB-10, Large O

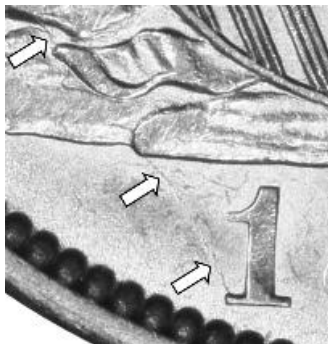
Obverse 3



- Date left (photo)



- Die lines in the rock along the shield's left edge (photo)

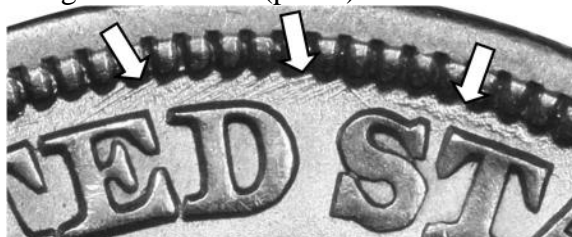


- All die states: die crack from dentil below the 1 thru the base into the field to rock support (photo)

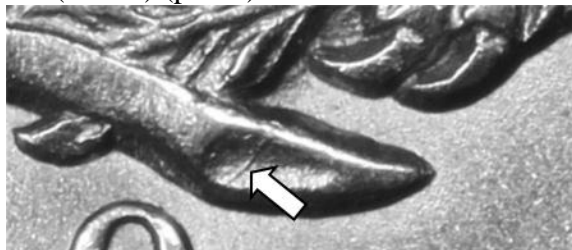
Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Diagonal die lines between the dentils and top of letters (UNI)TED and rust above letters ST(ATES) (photo)



- Die line on the olive stem (photo)
- Die cracks along the top of most of the letters of the legend
- Unfinished under olive leaves
- All seen have been unclashed.

This is the third use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L3.5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.209"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS60		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-10, Large O



Obverse 3



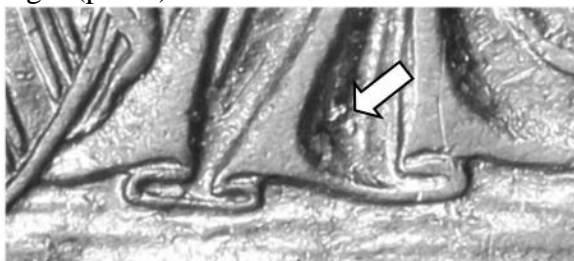
Reverse G

1847-O WB-11, Large O

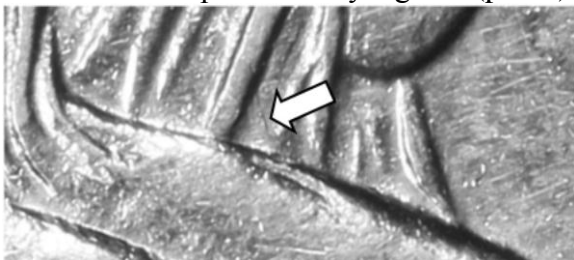
Obverse 4



- Date far left, high, and slanting down to the right (photo)



- Two small lumps in Liberty's gown (photo)

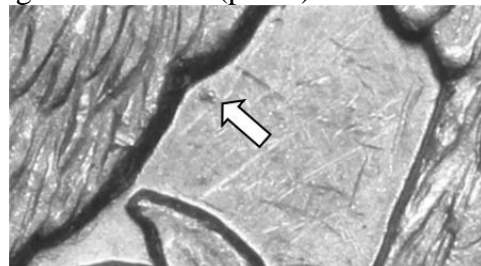


- EDS-MDS only: die line in Liberty's drapery to the right of the base of the pole (photo)
- Most stars weakly struck

Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All die states: lump in field beneath the left wing (photo)



- EDS only: die lines along the dentils above (UNIT)ED (photo)



- All die states seen: die cracks thru legend and denomination prominently between (HA)LF D(OL) (photo)

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L3, .012"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.205"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 MDS: AU58		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection MDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1847-O
WB-11, Large O**



Obverse 4



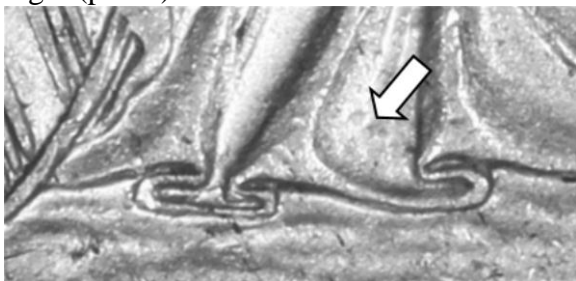
Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O WB-12, Large O

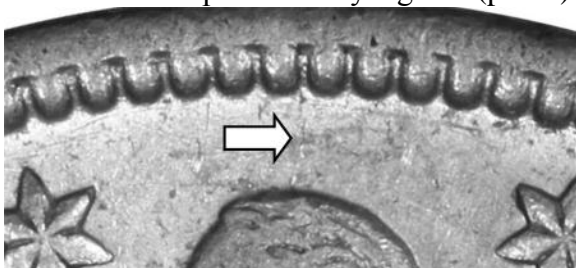
Obverse 4



- Date far left, high, and slanting down to the right (photo)



- Two small lumps in Liberty's gown (photo)



- Die crack from the top of Liberty's head to the dentil above (photo)
- Rim cuds at K-5

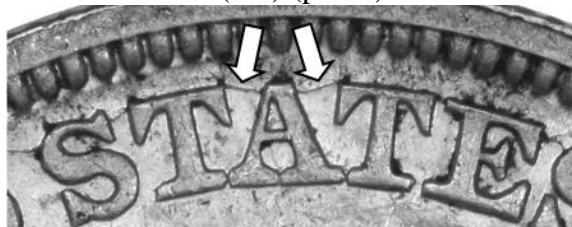
Reverse I



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- Vertical shield line B2 faintly doubled
- Heavily cracked die: see prominent die cracks below



- All die states: die crack from (HAL)F to dentils below D(OL) (photo)



- All die states: arching die crack along the top of letters (S)TAT(ES) (photo) and along the top of UNITED to rim
- This reverse die is transitional with 1846-O (reverse T).

This is the second use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Note: This die marriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

Date grid: L2.5, .014"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.195"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1847-O
WB-12, Large O**



Obverse 4



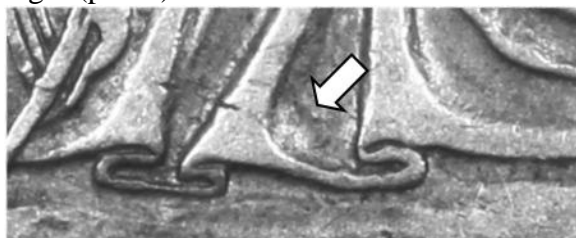
Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O WB-13, Large O

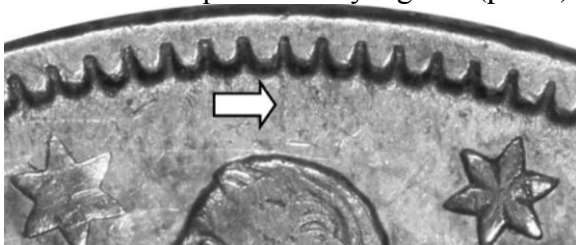
Obverse 4



- Date far left, high, and slanting down to the right (photo)



- Two small lumps in Liberty's gown (photo)



- All examples seen: die crack from the top of Liberty's head to the dentil above (photo)
- Rim cuds around most of the circumference visible on high grade coins
- Weak strike across Liberty's upper torso

Reverse J



- Large O mintmark - LDS shown: weak at bottom (photo)
- Small tine from dentil above S(TATES)
- LDS: heavily cracked die prominently as below



- Die cracks around olive leaves, UNITED and left wing (photo above) and from the dentil thru D(OL) thru olive stem and right claw into right wing (photo below)



- This reverse die is transitional with 1846-O (Reverse R).
- Eagle's left leg weakly struck

This is the third use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Note: This die marriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

Date grid: L2.5, .014"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.195"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: AU50		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-13, Large O



Obverse 4



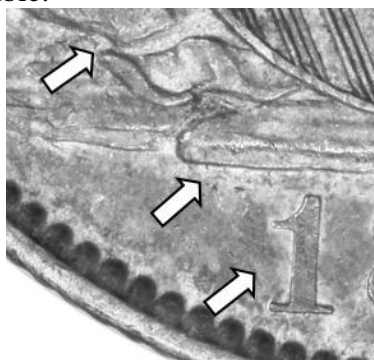
Reverse J (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O WB-14, Large O

Obverse 3



- Date left (photo) now weak from die polishing
- The die lines in the rock along the shield's left edge seen on previous uses of this die (WB-8, 9, and WB-10) are now polished off the die and not visible.



- All die states: die crack from dentil below the 1 thru the base into the field into the rock support and rock (photo)

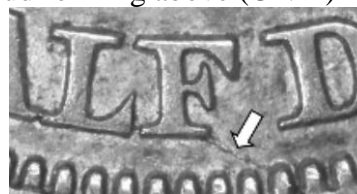
Reverse I



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- Vertical shield line B2 faintly doubled
- Heavily cracked die: see prominent die cracks below



- LDS: cud forming above (UNIT)ED (photo)



- All die states: die crack from (HAL)F to dentils below D(OL) (photo)



- All die states: arching die crack along the top of letters (S)TAT(ES) (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1846-O (reverse T).

This is the fourth use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Note: This die marriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

Date grid: L3.5, .018"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.192"	Rarity - 5
Draperies die state: Partial	Foot support: None	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-14, Large O



Obverse 3



Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O WB-15, Large O

Obverse 3



- Date left (photo) with weakening rock support above the date



- All die states: die crack from dentil below the 1 thru the base into the field into the rock support and rock (photo)

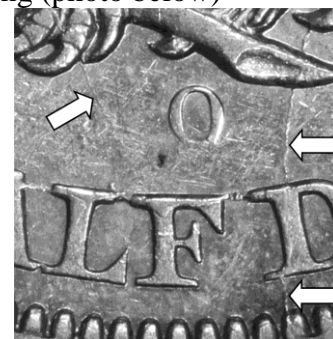
Reverse J



- Large O mintmark; weak at bottom (photo)
- All die states: heavily cracked die prominently as below



- Die cracks around olive leaves, UNITED and left wing (photo above) and from the dentil thru D(OL) thru olive stem and right claw into right wing (photo below)



- This reverse die is transitional with 1846-O (Reverse R).
- Eagle's left leg weakly struck

This is the fifth and final use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die in 1847.

Note: This die marriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

Date grid: L3.5, .018"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.193"	Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: None	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Dick Osburn Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1847-O
WB-15, Large O**



Obverse 3



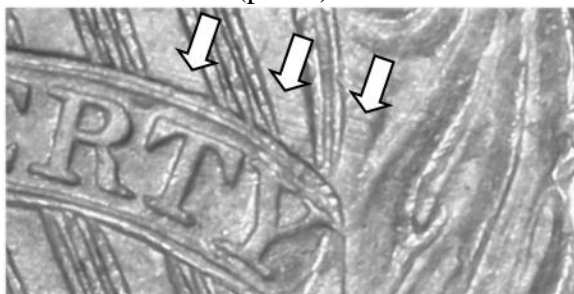
Reverse J (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O WB-16, Large O

Obverse 5



- Date left and low (photo)

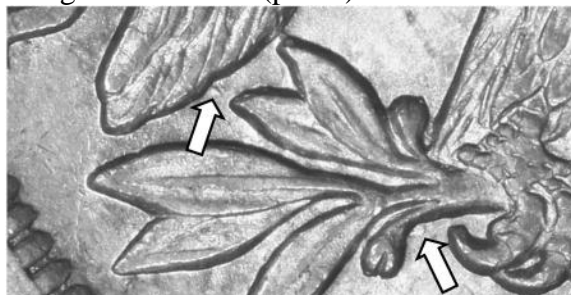


- Nearly horizontal die lines in Liberty's gown and in the shield above (LIBE)RTY (photo)
- Stars 7, 8 12, and 13 weak

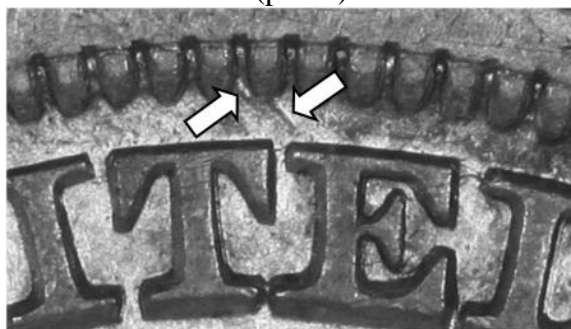
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lump on the right side of the lower bud's stem and another under the left wing near olive leaf # 4 (photo)



- Two die lines from dentils above (UNI)TE(D) (photo); another above (U)N(ITED)
- Die crack along the top of letters UNITED ST(ATES)
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L4.5, .023"	EDS: 147 reeds LDS: 145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.213"	147 reeds: Rarity - 6 145 reeds: Rarity - 4
Draperies die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: LDS - MS63		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-16, Large O



Obverse 5



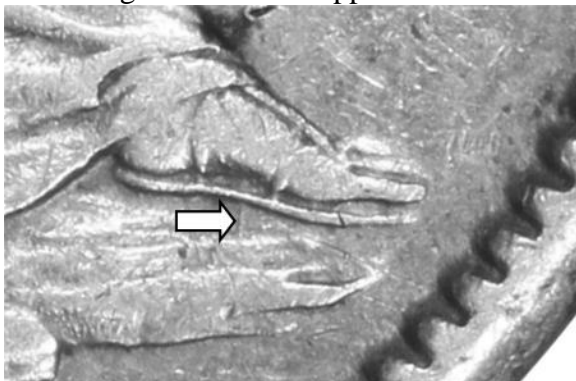
Reverse K

1847-O WB-17, Large O

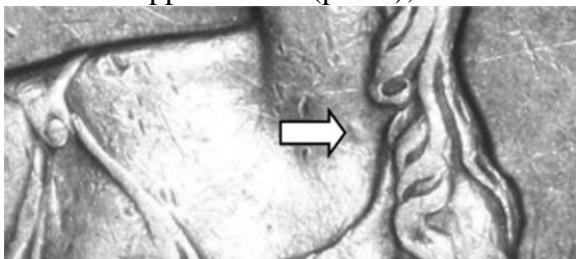
Obverse 6



- Date centered (photo); LDS (shown): weak lower edge of the rock support



- Vertical die line from Liberty's right foot into the rock support below (photo); LDS shown



- EDS: lump at the base of Liberty's neck (photo)

Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- The diagonal die lines between the dentils and top of letters (UNITED and rust above letters ST(ATES) seen on the previous use of this die (WB-14) are now polished away.



- Die line on the olive stem (photo)
- Die cracks along the top of most of the letters of the legend and denomination
- Unfinished under olive leaves
- All die states seen: heavy clash in shield's lower right

This is the first use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .022"	EDS to MDS: 147 reeds LDS: 145 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.209"	Rarity - 2
Drapery die state: Full to Partial	Foot support: Full to Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full to weak; Reverse - Full to weak	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-17, Large O



Obverse 6



Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O WB-18, Large O

Obverse 6

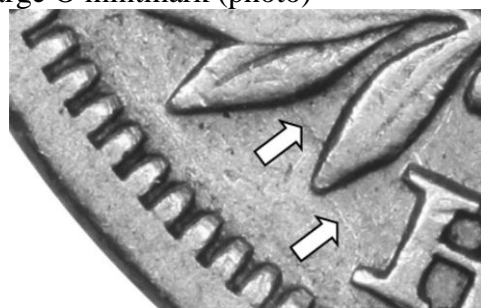


- Date centered and very weak in all die states seen (photo); the weak date is a key diagnostic for this die marriage
- Many details weak from die polishing
- Die diagnostics seen in the previous use of this die (WB-17) are now not visible.

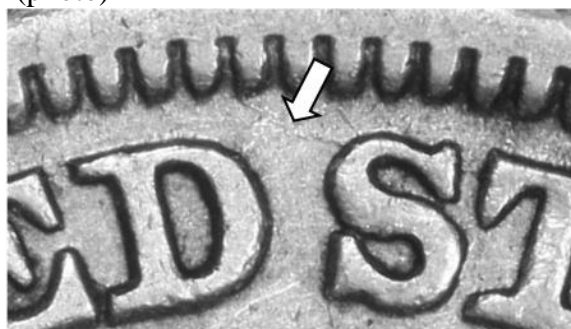
Reverse L



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All examples seen: die crack from the left base of the H(ALF) to olive leaves #1 and #2 (photo)



- All examples seen: die crack from the upper left of the S(TATES) to the dentil above the right side of the (UNITE)D (photo)

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .026"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.208"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: None	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-18, Large O



Obverse 6



Reverse L

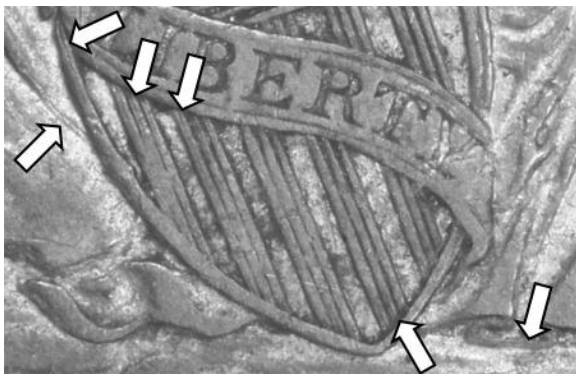
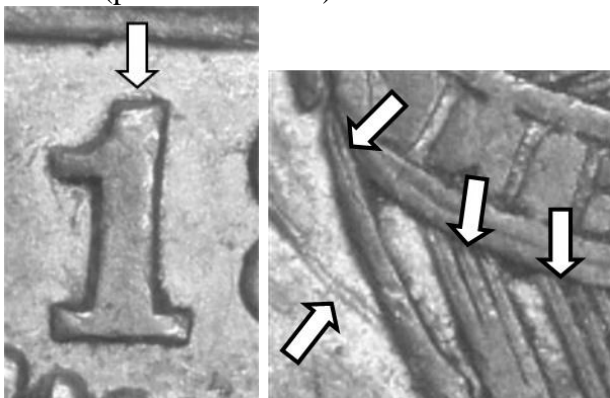
1847-O

WB-19, Doubled Obverse Die

Obverse 7



- Date right (photo) with the 1 slightly repunched south (photo below left)

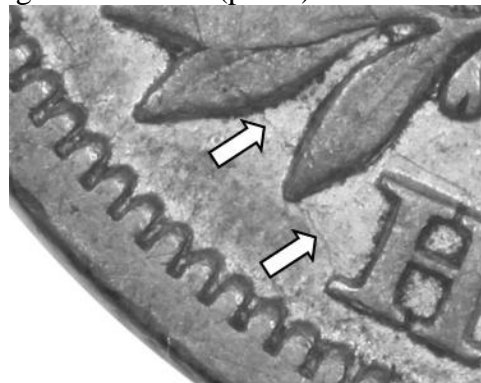


- Die doubling most obvious on the rock, lower left shield lines, and gown (photos above right and above)

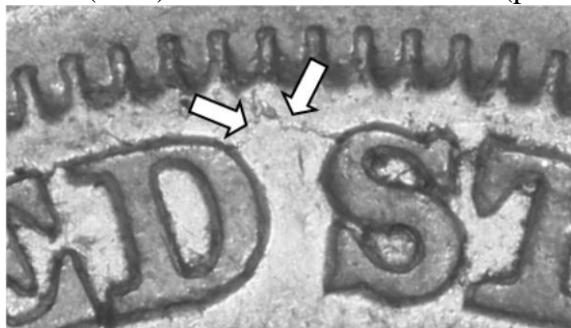
Reverse L



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All die states: die crack from the left base of the H(ALF) to olive leaves #1 and #2 (photo)



- All die states: die crack from the upper left of the S(TATES) to the dentil above the right side of the (UNITE)D (photo)
- Additional die crack along the top of letters UNITED STA(TES)

This is the first use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .020"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.207"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-19, Doubled Obverse Die



Obverse 7



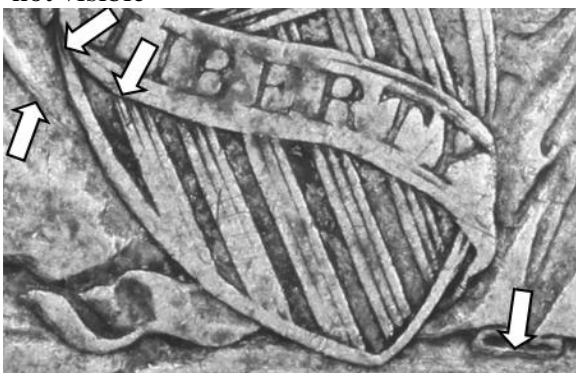
Reverse L

1847-O WB-20, Doubled Obverse Die

Obverse 7



- Date right (photo); the repunching on the 1 seen in the previous use of this die (WB-19) is not visible

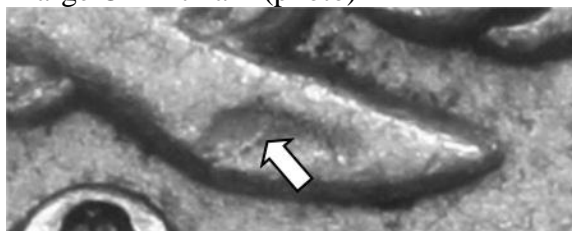


- Die doubling most obvious on the rock, lower left shield lines, and gown (photo)
- Die crack from rock support thru ribbon into rock and from K-4 thru arrowheads

Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die line on the olive stem (photo)



- Die cracks along the top of most of the letters of the legend and denomination prominently on OF AME(RICA) (photo)
- All die states: heavy clash in shield's lower right
- Heavily worn to non-existent dentils

This is the second use of this obverse die and third use of this reverse die.

This die paring has a remarriage. See next page for details.

The die remarriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

WB-20 Date grid: M1, .020"	WB-20: 147 reeds WB-20R: 144 reeds	WB-20 diameter = 1.210" WB-20R diameter = 1.189"	WB-20: Rarity - 6 WB-20R: Rarity - 7
Drapery die state: Full to None	Foot support: Full to None	Dentils: Obverse - Full to weak; Reverse - Weak	
Grade of coin depicted: WB-20: VF35 WB-20R: XF45		WB-20 coin from the Bill Bugert Collection WB-20R coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-20 and WB-20R Remarriage
Doubled Obverse Die

Randy Wiley with his extensive and thorough research of this date discovered this remarriage. The obverse drapery below the elbow and the foot support are the keys to identifying this remarriage. Apparently, die marriages WB-21, WB-22, and WB-23 with varying combinations of dies were all struck in between WB-20 and WB-20R. Fortunately, definitive and readily recognizable die diagnostics allow easy identification of the WB-20 First marriage and the WB-20R Remarriage. The key obverse and reverse die differences are depicted below. Note the differences in the state of the drapery and the foot support in the photographs below. Also, note the reverse die crack differences thru the H(ALF).

WB-20 First Marriage	WB-20R Remarriage
	
	
<p>Large diameter (typically 1.210”), 147 reeds</p>	<p>Small diameter (typically 1.189”), 144 reeds</p>
<p>The First marriages has no die cracks thru the H(ALF) as seen in the remarriage to the right (i.e., from rim thru the right side of the H(ALF) to the left claw thru the eagle’s left wing into the field to the (UN)I(TED); another from this crack below the claw horizontally thru the mintmark into the field below the olive stem)</p>	

1847-O

WB-20 (WB-20R Remarriage shown), Doubled Obverse Die



Obverse 7



Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

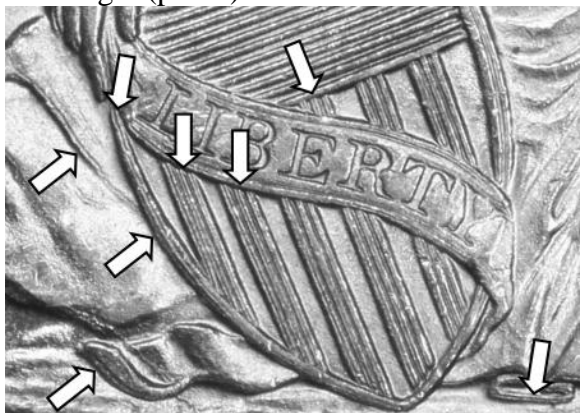
1847-O

WB-21, Doubled Obverse Die

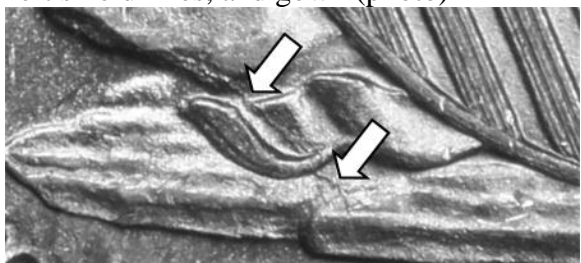
Obverse 7



- Date right (photo)



- Die doubling most obvious on the rock, lower left shield lines, and gown (photo)



- Die crack from rock support thru ribbon into rock and from K-4 thru arrowheads

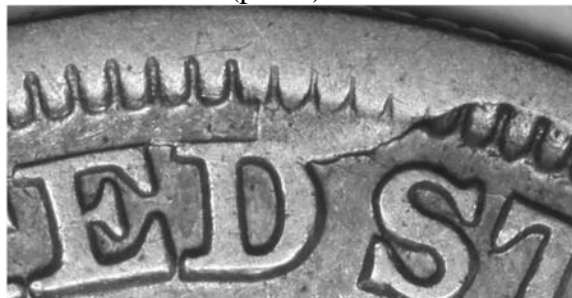
Reverse M



- Large O mintmark placed high and right nearly touching the olive stem (photo)



- EDS: die starting to crack along top of letters (UNI)TE(D); MDS: die cracks along top of letters UNITED (photo)



- VLDS with cud above (UNITE)D S(TATES) (photo)
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the third use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .022"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.210"	EDS: Rarity - 3 VLDS w/cud: Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Partial to None	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: MS62 LDS: XF40		EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection VLDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-21, Doubled Obverse Die



Obverse 7



Reverse M

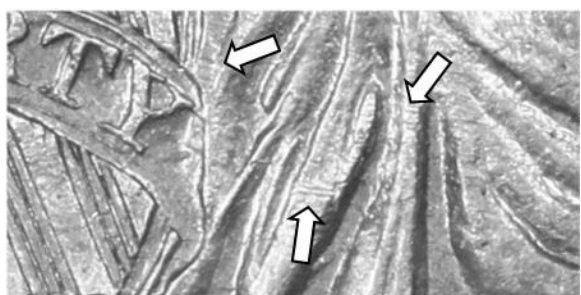
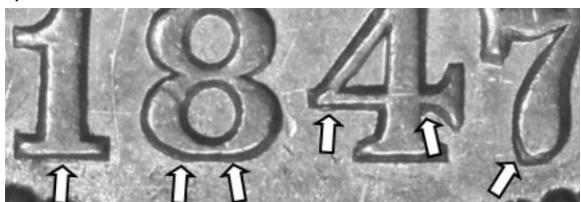
1847-O

WB-22, Repunched 7

Obverse 8



- Date high and slightly repunched north (photos above and below); repunching strongest on the 7

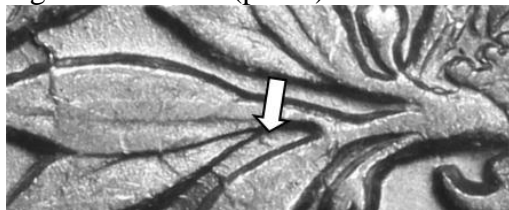


- EDS to MDS: horizontal die lines in the Liberty's gown to the right of the scroll (photo); LDS: few scattered lines visible
- EDS: uncracked, MDS - LDS: die cracks thru stars 4-5 to dentil between stars 5 and 6
- High grade coins only: rim cuds from K-12 to K-2

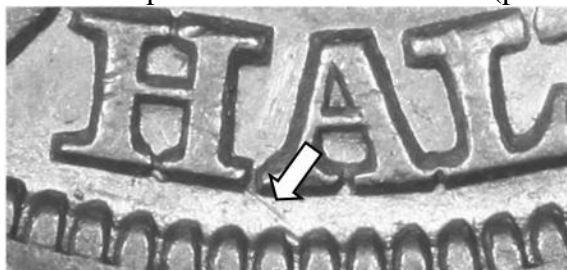
Reverse N



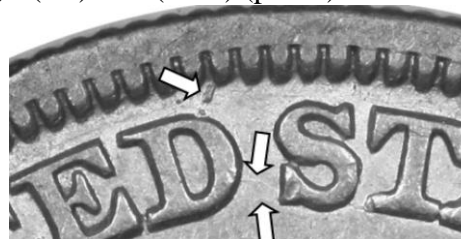
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lump between the olive leaves (photo)



- EDS - MDS only: die line from dentil below (H)A(LF) to H(ALF) (photo)



- All examples seen: die cracks thru legend; initially above and between (UNITE)D S(TATES) (photo); LDS: many die cracks thru entire reverse

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .010"	EDS: 145 reeds LDS: 144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.194"	145 reeds Rarity - 2 144 reeds Rarity - 6
Draper die state: Full to Weak	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU50 LDS: AU53		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-22, Repunched 7



Obverse 8



Reverse N (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O WB-23, Repunched 7

Obverse 8

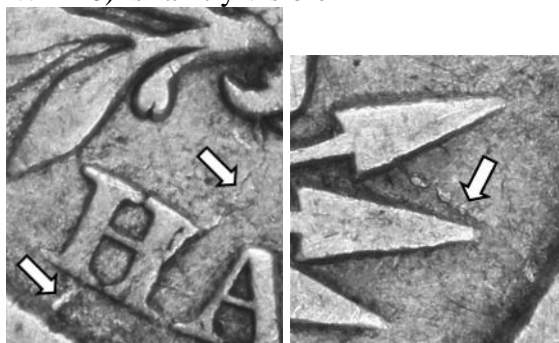


- Date high with the 7 repunched north (photo) difficult to see in this low grade
- The horizontal die lines in the Liberty's gown to the right of the scroll seen on the previous use of this die (WB-22) are not visible here.
- Die cracks thru stars 4-5 to dentil between stars 5 and 6

Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- Most details on this die are very weak from extensive use (this is the 4th use of this die) and from die polishing.
- The die line on the olive stem seen on the previous uses of this die (WB-10, WB-17, and WB-20) is faintly visible



- Die cracks along the top of most of the letters of the legend and denomination prominently on OF AME(RICA); now from the rim thru H(ALF) to the left claw (photo above left) and from rim thru arrowheads (photo above right)
- Clash in shield's lower right
- Heavily worn to mostly non-existent dentils around the entire circumference

This is the second use of this obverse die and fourth and final use of this reverse die.

To date, all examples seen of this die marriage are of low grade.

Note: This die marriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

Date grid: L5.5, .013"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.194"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Very weak	
Grade of coin depicted: VF20		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-23, Repunched 7



Obverse 8



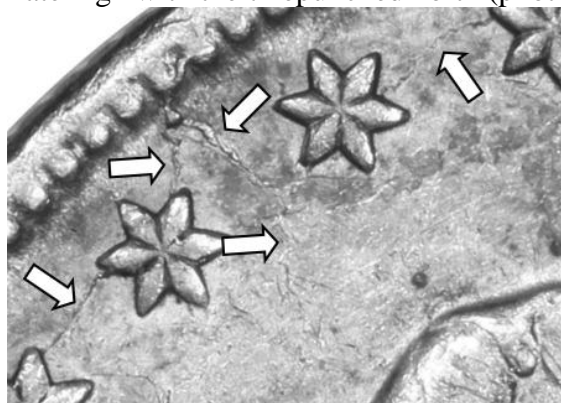
Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O WB-24, Repunched 7

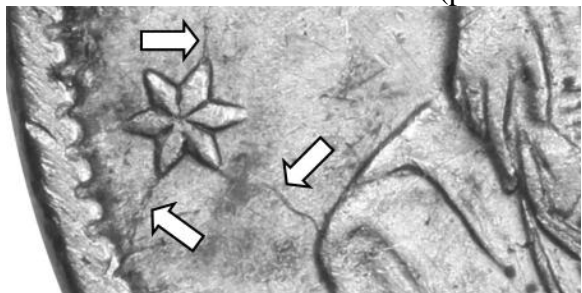
Obverse 8



- Date high with the 7 repunched north (photo)



- All examples seen: shattered die with distinctive web-like die cracks in the stars and dentils over Liberty's left shoulder (photo); others around star 1 and the rock (photo below)

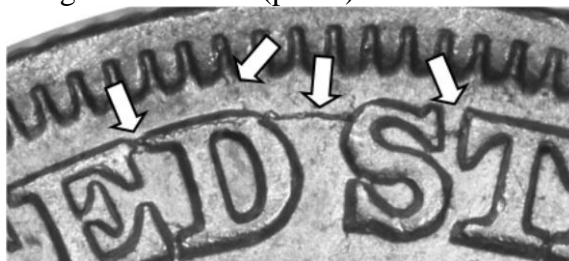


- Heavily worn dentils around the entire circumference

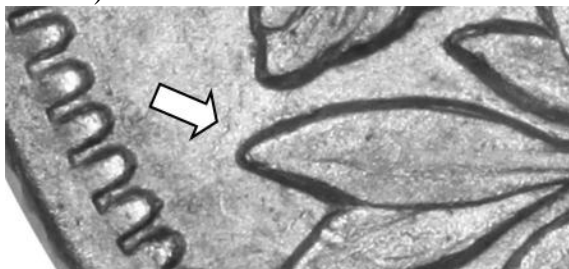
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die cracks on most of the legend and prominently along the top of letters UNITED STATES (photo); another from the lower left wing to the dentils near the olive leaves (photo below)



- Clash in shield's lower right much weaker from die polishing than on previous uses of this die

This is the third use of this obverse die and third and final use of this reverse die.

Note: This die marriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

Date grid: L5.5, .013"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-24, Repunched 7



Obverse 8 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

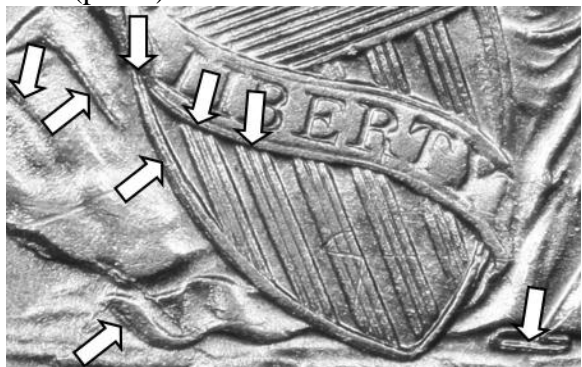
1847-O

WB-25, Doubled Obverse Die

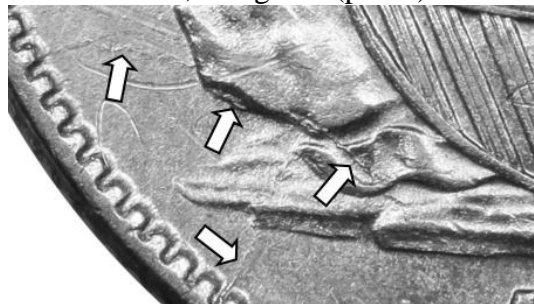
Obverse 7



- Date right with a die crack along the base of the date (photo)



- Die doubling most obvious on the rock, lower left shield lines, and gown (photo)

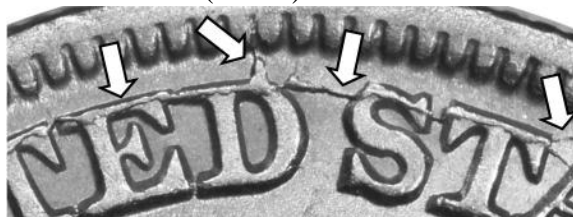


- All die states: multiple die cracks from date thru rock support thru ribbon into rock and field, another from K-7 into rock support (photo) and thru all stars

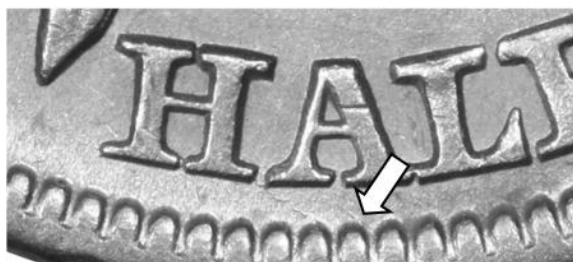
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- The die lines from dentils above UNITED and lumps by the olive leaves seen on the previous use of this die (WB-8) are not visible here.



- Die cracks on most of the legend and prominently along the top of letters UNITED STATES



- Die line from the dentil below (H)A(LF) (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the fourth use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.

Note: This die marriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

Date grid: L5.5, .024"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.191"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Weak to none	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-25, Doubled Obverse Die



Obverse 7 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O

WB-26, Doubled Obverse Die

Obverse 7



- Date right; all examples seen: die crack along the base of the date (photo)



- Die doubling most obvious on the rock, lower left shield lines, and gown (photo)

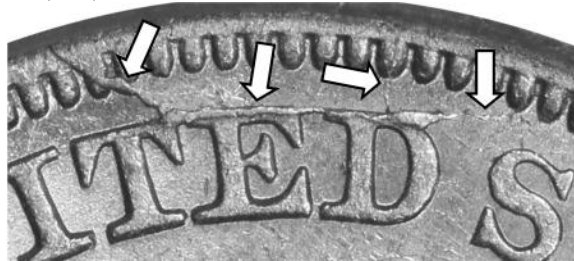


- Multiple die cracks from date thru rock support thru ribbon into rock and field, another from K-7 into rock support (photo) and LDS: die cracks thru all stars

Reverse O



- Large O mintmark (photo). Note: doubling seen on the mintmark in the image above is hub doubling and not a repunched mintmark.
- EDS: shallow die cracks initially above (UNIT)ED and from (HAL) to dentil below D(OL)



- VLDS: heavily cracked thru entire legend and denomination with a cud forming along top of letters (UNIT)ED (photo)

This is the fifth use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Note: This die marriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

Date grid: L5.5, .024"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.189"	Rarity - 4 VLDS: Rarity - 6
Dravery die state: None	Foot support: None	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS AU53		Coin from the Scott Mickelson Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

1847-O
WB-26, Doubled Obverse Die



Obverse 7 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



Reverse O (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

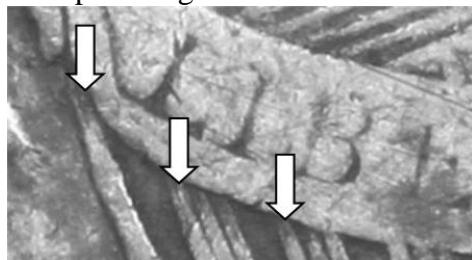
1847-O

WB-27, Doubled Obverse Die

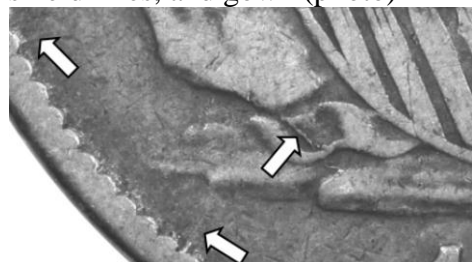
Obverse 7



- Date centered (photo)
- Most details on this die are very weak from extensive use (this is the 6th use of this die) and from die polishing.



- Die doubling most obvious on the rock, lower left shield lines, and gown (photo)

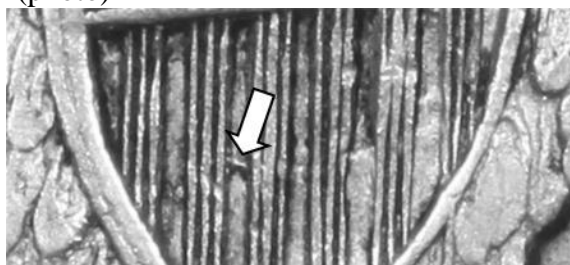


- All die states: multiple die cracks from date thru rock support thru ribbon into rock and field, another from K-7 into rock support (photo) and thru all stars. These die cracks are much weaker from die polishing in this last use of the die.

Reverse D



- Large O mintmark with weak lower edge (photo)



- Nearly horizontal die line in the middle of the lower shield (photo)
- The wavy die line thru the eagle's tail feathers above the left claw seen on the previous uses of this die (WB-4, 5, and 9) is now not visible.
- All die states seen: die crack from the dentil below the left side of the (D)O(L) to the left base of (D)O(L)
- Die crack along the top of letters UNITED STATES
- This reverse die is transitional with 1848-O (reverse B).

This is the sixth and final use of this obverse die and fourth use of this reverse die.

The obverse die has very weak details which will perplex proper grading; grade this die marriage by the reverse.

Note: This die marriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

Date grid: L5.5, .024"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.193"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: None	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF40 LDS: XF40		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-104.		Version 4.68	

**1847-O
WB-27, Doubled Obverse Die**



Obverse 7



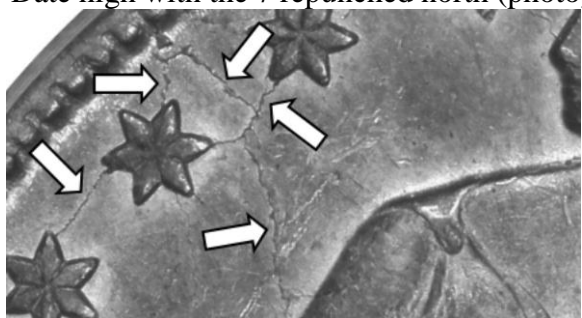
Reverse D (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1847-O WB-28, Repunched 7

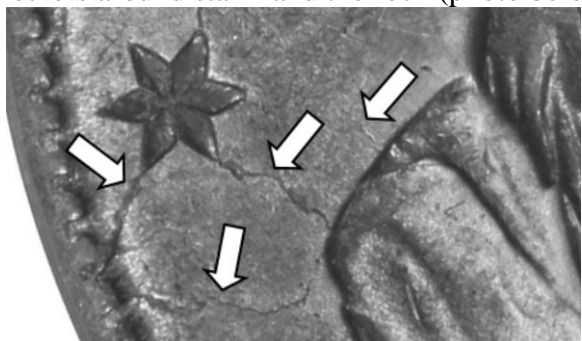
Obverse 8



- Date high with the 7 repunched north (photo)



- All examples seen: shattered die with distinctive web-like die cracks in the stars and dentils over Liberty's left shoulder (photo); others around star 1 and the rock (photo below)

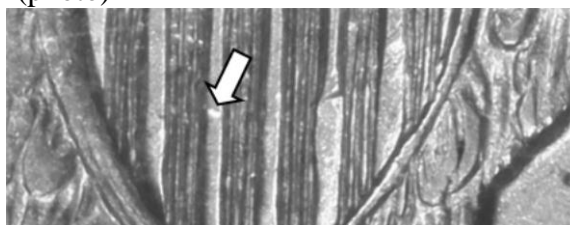


- Heavily worn dentils around the entire circumference

Reverse D



- Large O mintmark with weak lower edge (photo)



- Nearly horizontal die line in the middle of the lower shield (photo)



- All die states: extensively shattered die with die cracks thru the entire legend, denomination, olive leaves, and arrowheads; prominent die cracks arching to the dentil above (S)TAT(ES) (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1848-O (reverse B) where it continues to be used for an amazing total of ten die marriages. Randy Wiley calls this die the "super tail die."

This is the fourth and final use of this obverse die and fifth and final use of this reverse die in 1847-O.
Note: This die marriage used a smaller diameter collar with 144 reeds.

Date grid: L5.5, .013"	144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.191"	Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS AU55		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-105.		Version 4.68	

**1847-O
WB-28, Repunched 7**



Obverse 8 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



Reverse D (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1848-O

With a mintage of over three million coins, 1848-O has the largest number of half dollars minted in all the early years of the New Orleans Branch Mint. With that, there is plenty to interest the die marriage collector including heavily cracked dies, repunched date, three remarriages, rusty dies, rare die marriages, and even a rotated reverse. Most dies are readily distinguishable by different die characteristics and die states.

Twenty-six die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
3,180,000	Requested	-	-	-	1 (147)
	Shipped	-	14	14	
	Known	26	13	15*	

* = This number includes one reverse die that is transitional with 1847-O.

Notched 1. All 1848-O half dollars have a notch in the base of the 1; this feature is noticeable even on low grade coins. I have noticed this effect on some 1848 Philadelphia Mint half dollars where the notch appears much weaker.

In background, the dates and mintmarks for the Liberty Seated series were punched by hand or later, by a large screw, into the working dies at Philadelphia (hence, the date and mintmark placement variations). The dates were punched using a date gangpunch consisting of between two and four digits of the desired date on a punch (There has been some controversy over how many digits were on a date gangpunch but that's not addressed here.). The number of individual date gangpunches available for each year's use is unknown. Nevertheless, the punch used for 1848-O had a defect in the shape of a notch in the lower left base of the 1 (photo). Logically, a notch on the date punch should be visibly apparent. Perhaps the punch was dropped prior to use and a "dent" was imparted. Perhaps the notch was intentionally affected as a signature of a mint employee. We will most likely never know but notched punches are known on another seated half dollar date (1856) and on other series: early seated half dimes (see *Gobrecht Journal*, Volume 27, Number 80, pages 39-41), 1820 bust dimes, and early capped bust half dollars for instance.



Open and closed 4. Various sources identify an open and a closed 4 date logotype which is a differentiation of the distance between the crossbar's lower serif and the right base of the 4. As we mentioned in our 1993 "Complete Guide," Randy Wiley and I believe that the open and closed 4 characteristics resulted from the amount of force used to emplace the date into the die or from the die polishing of the coin studied. Furthermore, we have documented cases where the same obverse die has both the open 4 and closed 4.

Proof 1848-O Half Dollar? Breen (4813) and Beistle (4D) both mention a proof 1848-O half dollar with a small mintmark. Breen's listing is probably a re-listing of Beistle's but Beistle provides a lengthy description as such:

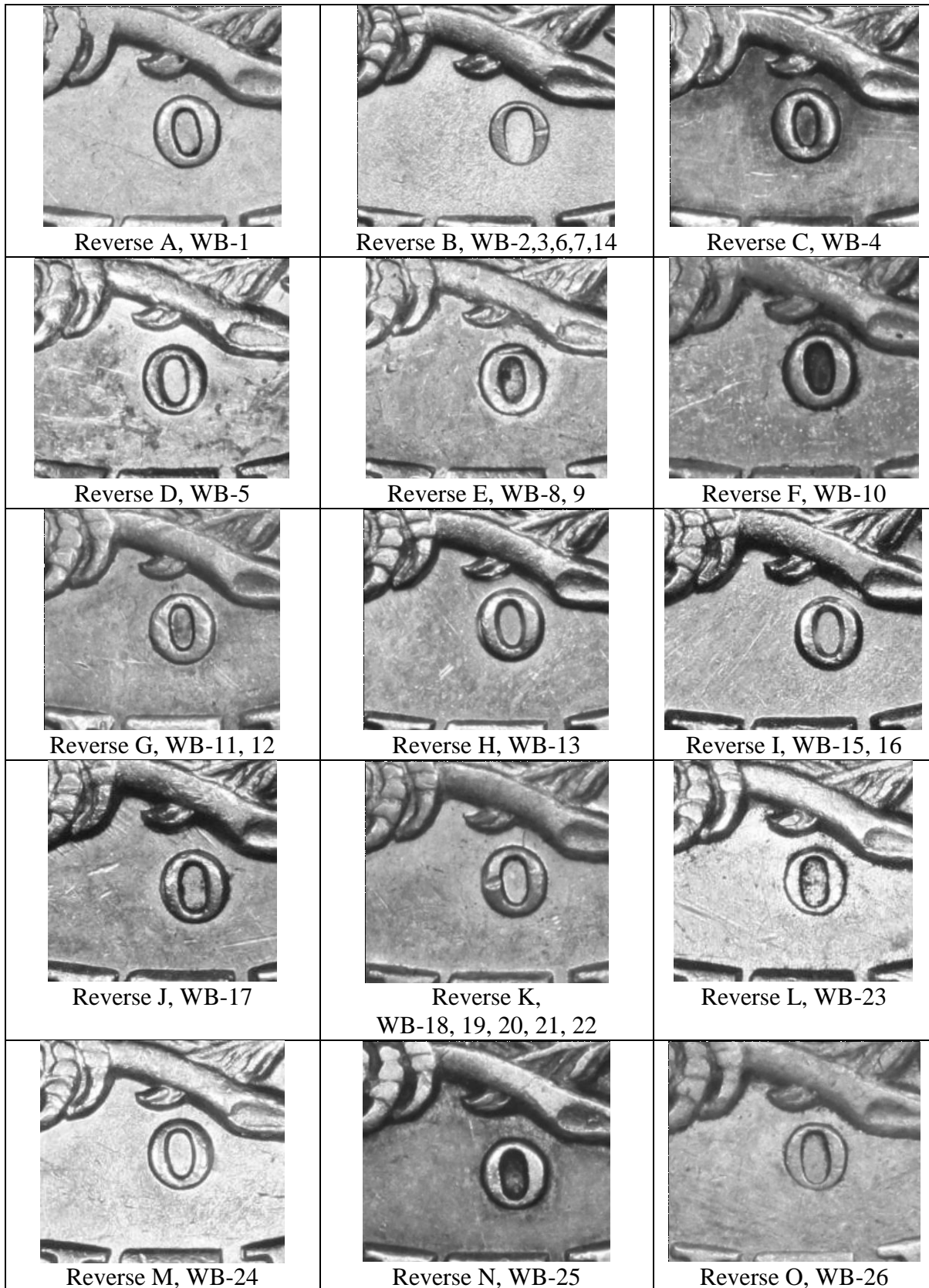
"1848 O 4 D. Full drapery at the elbow, foot is supported and the toe is enclosed. High date, slender figures, and 1 is set lower than the base of 848.

Rev. D. Small mint mark O, and centered high up in the crotch of tip of feather and side of stem. Two full lines are on the left side of shield. Proof. As a proof coin it is exceedingly rare in this date." Breen says "Ex. rare, untraced." Beistle's description is vague, lists mostly die state characteristics, and I cannot positively match it to any die marriages listed herein. I have not seen this proof and will doubt it exists until one is forthcoming. The small O mintmark was not used in 1848 and a different size (other than the large O) was last used in 1845. The chances that a different mintmark size punch was used in 1848 are remote.

1848-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
L3.5, .014"	WB-9
L3.5, .014"	WB-10
L3.5, .022"	WB-20
L4.5, .019"	WB-16
L4.5, .022"	WB-23
L5 , .016"	WB-13
L5 , .016"	WB-14
L5 , .016"	WB-15
L5 , .018"	WB-17
L5 , .019"	WB-18
L5 , .021"	WB-4
L5 , .021"	WB-5
L5.5, .009"	WB-19
L5.5, .016"	WB-1
L5.5, .016"	WB-2
L5.5, .019"	WB-3
M1 , .014"	WB-26
M1 , .019"	WB-6
M1 , .019"	WB-12
M1 , .020"	WB-24
M1 , .022"	WB-25
M1 , .024"	WB-22
M2 , .018"	WB-11
M2 , .020"	WB-21
M2 , .022"	WB-7
M2 , .024"	WB-8

1848-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions



<p style="text-align: center;">1848-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys</p>		Tine from the dentil above the left side of the (A)M(E)(RICA)	Mintmark with the lower edge weak	Diagonal (NW to SE) die lines in the lower shield	Die gouge in the (O)F	Small lump under the upper left serif of (A)M(E)RICA)	Heavy diagonal die line thru S(TATES)
		A	B	C	D	E	F
Base of the 1 repunched	1	WB-1	WB-2				
Lumps on Liberty's gown below the hair	2		WB-3	WB-4	WB-5		
Small lump above the ribbon's upper edge	3		WB-6				
Small lumps near the lower inside point of the shield	4		WB-7			WB-8	
Lump in rock to the left of the shield	5					WB-9	WB-10
Many lumps on this obverse including on Liberty's neck to the left of the hair	7		WB-14				

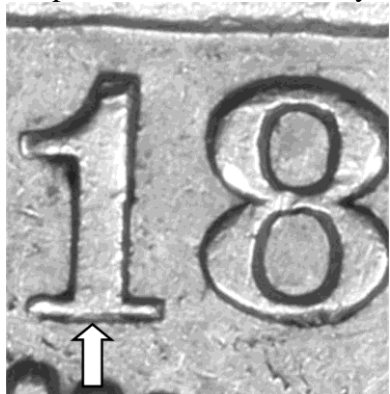
1848-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Large O mintmark	Many lumps on this reverse including in the field below (UNIT)E(D)	Lump in the field below the eagle's right wing	Die lines above and under the eagle's left wing	Arching die crack thru (STAT)ES	Die line between the lower two arrow shafts	Large O mintmark	Rust lump in between the eagle's beak and the left wing	Small lump between (UND)TE(D)
		G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
Small lump above the ribbon's upper edge	3	WB-12				WB-22				
Date slanting down to right	6	WB-11				WB-21				
Lump on Liberty's neck to the left of the hair	7		WB-13	WB-15	WB-17	WB-18				
Small lump in the field to the upper right of the 1	8			WB-16						
Date high	9					WB-19				
Small lump below the gown's loop	10					WB-20				
Upper angle of the 4 filled	11						WB-23			
Two small lumps in Liberty's gown above the upper shield tip	12							WB-24	WB-25	
Small lump to the right of the lower shield point	13									WB-26

1848-O WB-1, Large O

Obverse 1



- Date left (photo) with the base of the 1 repunched north. The planchet defect below the date is peculiar to this coin only.



- Base of the 1 repunched slightly north (photo)

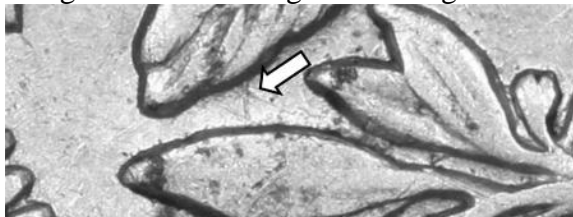


- Two die lines from rim at K-11 to Liberty's left shoulder and another to right from upper right edge of the cap (photo)

Reverse A



- Large O mintmark high and tilting to the left



- Scattered die lines in the recessed area between the eagle's left wing and the olive leaves (photo)



- Tine from the dentil above the left side of the (AM)E(RICA) and die line above the base of the letters (AM)ER(ICA) (photo)
- Weak scattered die polish lines in the field below both wings
- Die cracks along the top of letters (AM)ERICA

This is the first use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.187"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-1, Large O



Obverse 1



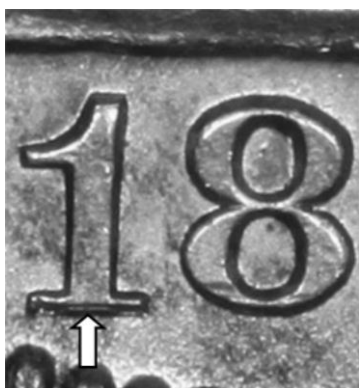
Reverse A

1848-O WB-2, Large O

Obverse 1



- Date left with the base of the 1 repunched north (photo)



- Base of the 1 repunched slightly north (photo)



- Two die lines from rim at K-11 to Liberty's left shoulder and another to right from upper right edge of the cap (photo)

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark with the lower edge weak (photo). This is an early die state of the WB-103 incomplete mintmark.



- All examples seen: extensive die cracks thru legend, denomination, olive leaves, and prominently thru arrowheads (photo)
- High grade coins (i.e., AU+): rim cud at K-12
- Clash in shield's lower right
- This reverse die is transitional with 1847-O (reverse D) and it was extensively cracked prior to the transition.

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 3
Draperly die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS64		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102 obverse and WB-103 reverse.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-2, Large O



Obverse 1



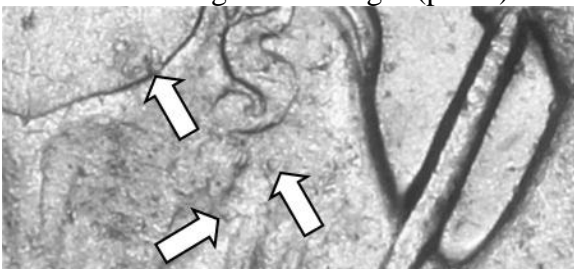
Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1848-O WB-3, Large O

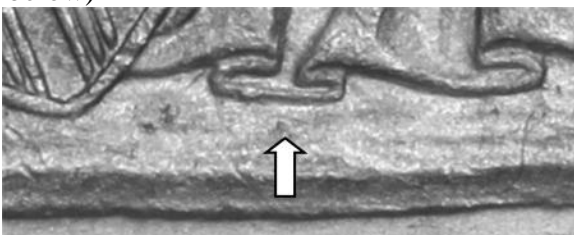
Obverse 2



- Date left slanting down to right (photo)

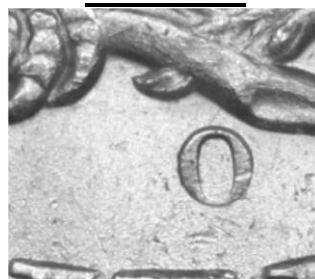


- Lumps on Liberty's gown below the hair curls, along the neck line (photo above), and in the rock support below the gown loop (photo below)



- Scattered rust lumps in the right field
- Some high grade coins (i.e., AU+): rim cud at K-1

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark with the lower edge weak (photo)



- All die states: extensive die cracks thru legend, denomination, olive leaves, and prominently thru arrowheads (photo)
- Some high grade coins (i.e., AU+): rim cud at K-12
- Clash in shield's lower right
- This reverse die is transitional with 1847-O (Reverse D).

This is the first use of this obverse die and the second use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .019"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.186"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Partial	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS61		Coin from the Dick Osburn Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-3, Large O



Obverse 2



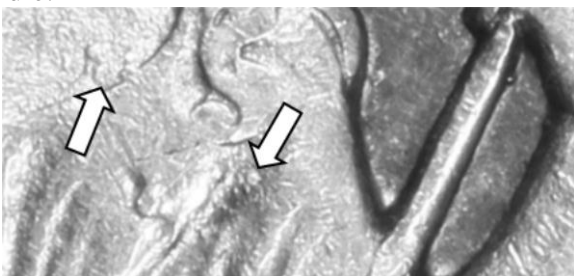
Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1848-O WB-4, Large O

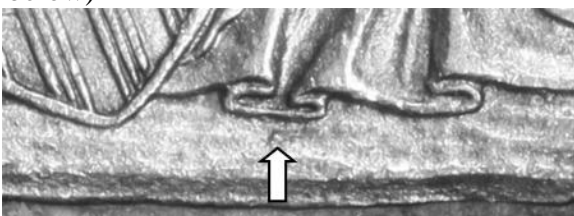
Obverse 2



- Date left slanting down to right (photo). Note the die line from the serif of the 1 to the dentil below the date; this was not seen on the previous use of this die or the later use of this die.



- Lumps on Liberty's gown below the hair curls, along the neck line (photo above), and in the rock support below the gown loop (photo below)

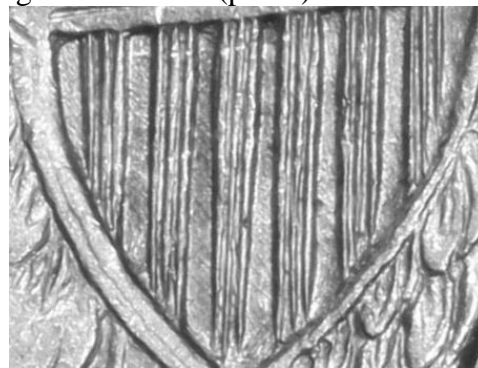


- Scattered rust lumps in the right field

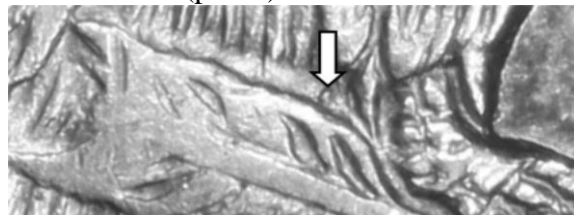
Reverse C



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Weak diagonal (NW to SE) die lines in the lower shield (photo)



- Small lump on the upper edge of the arrow's upper feathers (photo)
- Note on next page: the planchet lamination or die crack diagonally from K-3 to K-6? Have you seen this on another example of this die marriage?

This is the second use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .021"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-4, Large O



Obverse 2



Reverse C

1848-O WB-5, Large O

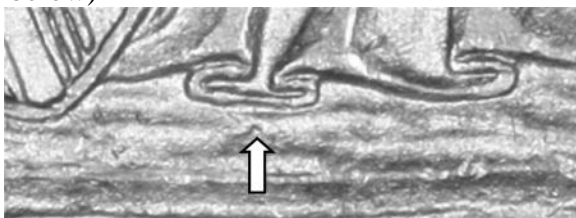
Obverse 2



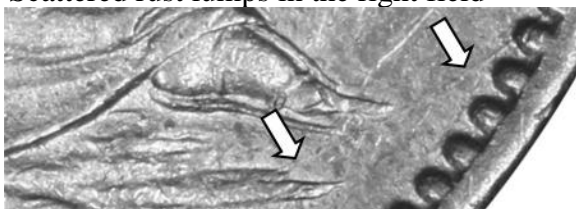
- Date left slanting down to right (photo)



- Lumps on Liberty's gown below the hair curls, along the neck line (photo above), and in the rock support below the gown loop (photo below)



- Scattered rust lumps in the right field

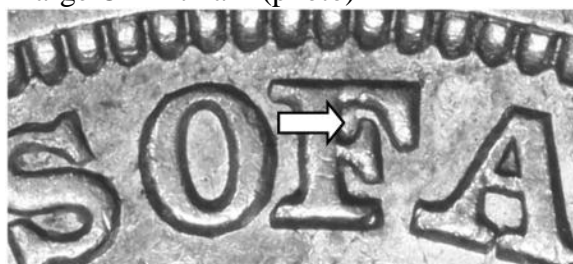


- Die crack from rock support thru foot to dentils at K-4 (photo)

Reverse D



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die gouge in the (O)F (photo)



- All examples seen: die crack along the top of letters UNIT(ED) with both ends into the dentils (photo); other cracks between (UNITE)D S(TATES) and along the top of letters (AME(RICA)). (See next page)

This is the third and final use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .021"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.187"	Rarity - 3
Draper die state: Full	Foot support: Weak to none	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-5, Large O



Obverse 2



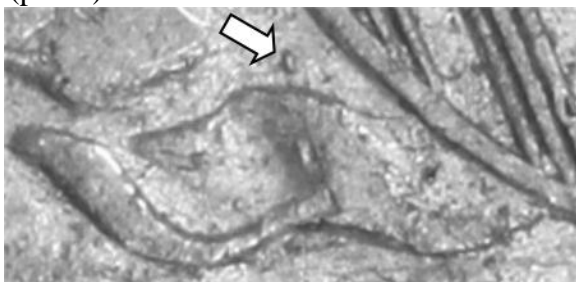
Reverse D

1848-O WB-6, Large O

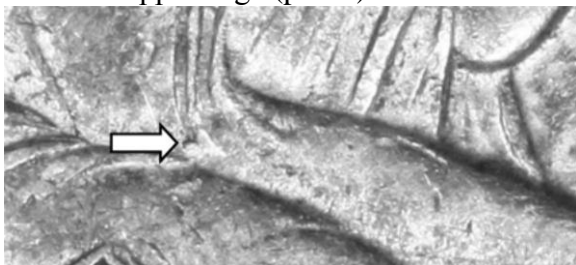
Obverse 3



- Date centered and slanting down to the right (photo)

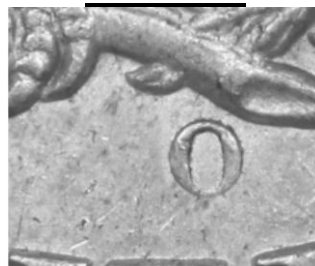


- Small lump in the rock support above the ribbon's upper edge (photo)



- Small lump in Liberty's lap (photo)

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark with the lower edge very weak (photo)



- All die states: extensive die cracks thru legend, denomination, olive leaves, and prominently thru arrowheads (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right
- This reverse die is transitional with 1847-O (Reverse D).

This is the first use of this obverse die and the third use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .019"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	WB-6: Rarity - 5 WB-6R: Rarity - 3
Draperie die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS60		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1848-O

WB-6 and WB-6R Remarriage

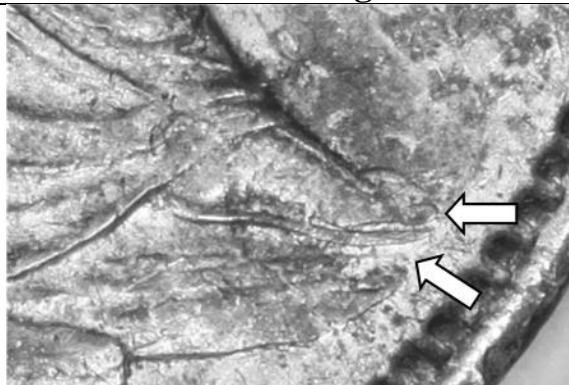
Randy Wiley with his extensive and thorough research of this date discovered this remarriage. The obverse die is the key to identifying this remarriage. WB-12, with the same obverse die as WB-6, was struck in between WB-6 and WB-6R. Fortunately, definitive and readily recognizable die diagnostics allow fairly easy identification of the WB-6 First marriage and the WB-6R Remarriage. The key obverse die differences are depicted below.

WB-6 First marriage



Full foot support including toes enclosed by the sandal

WB-6R Remarriage

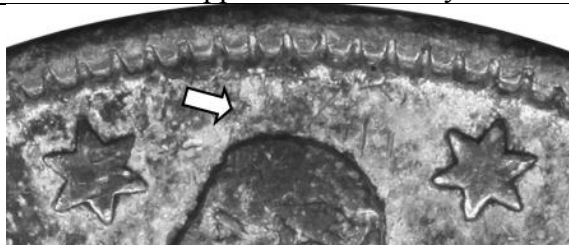


Die polishing around Liberty's foot including:

- Toes not completely enclosed by the sandal
- Weak rock support below Liberty's toes



Uncracked above Liberty's head
Note also, strong dentils above Liberty's head



Vertical die crack above Liberty's forehead to the dentil above
Note also, worn dentils above Liberty's head

1848-O
WB-6, Large O



Obverse 3



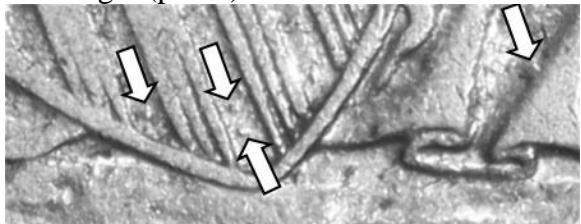
Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1848-O WB-7, Large O

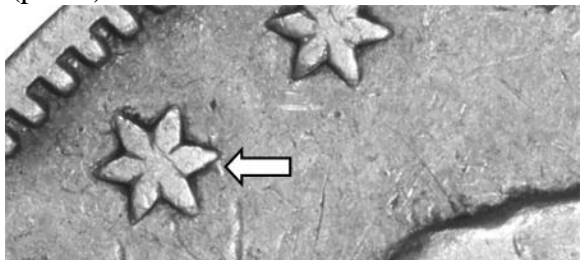
Obverse 4



- Date right (photo)



- Small lumps near the lower inside point of the shield and in the gown to the right of the shield (photo)



- Small gouge thru point of star 5 (photo)
- Rusty die

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark with the lower edge now missing (photo)



- All die states: extensive die cracks thru legend, denomination, olive leaves, and prominently thru arrowheads (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right
- This reverse die is transitional with 1847-O (Reverse D).

This is the first use of this obverse die and the fourth use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .022"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.193"	Rarity - 5
Dravery die state: Full	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: VF35		Coin from the Dick Osburn Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-7, Large O



Obverse 4



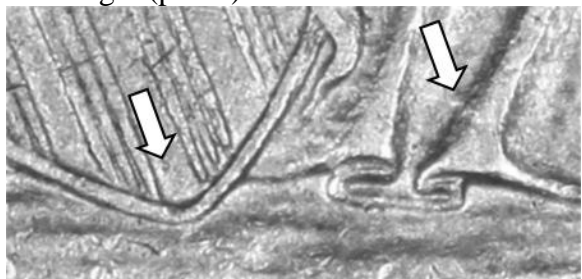
Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1848-O WB-8, Large O

Obverse 4



- Date right (photo)

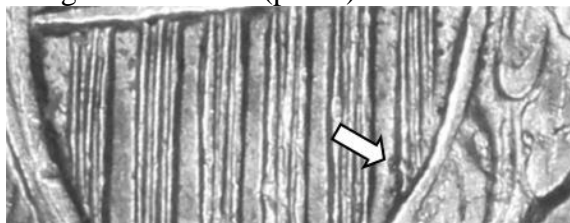


- Small lumps near the lower inside point of the shield and in the gown to the right of the shield (photo)
- The small gouge thru point of star 5 seen on the previous use of this obverse die (WB-7) is now polished away.
- “Washed out” appearance of this die from die polishing; weak stars 1-3, weak rock support, weak foot support, and weak gown features
- Rusty die

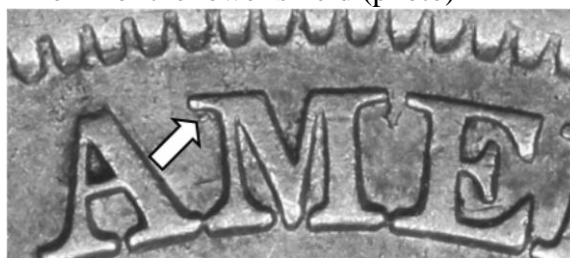
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lump in the recessed area on the shield line F1 of the lower shield (photo)



- Small lump under the upper left serif of (A)M(ERICA) (photo)
- Faint die cracks starting thru legend

This is the second and last use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

This die marriage is best graded by the reverse; the obverse has weak features from die polishing.

Date grid: M2, .024”

147 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.190”

Rarity - 3

Drapery die state: Weak

Foot support: None

Dentils: Obverse: - Weak; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: AU50

Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection

Cross reference: WB-101.

Version 4.68

1848-O
WB-8, Large O



Obverse 4



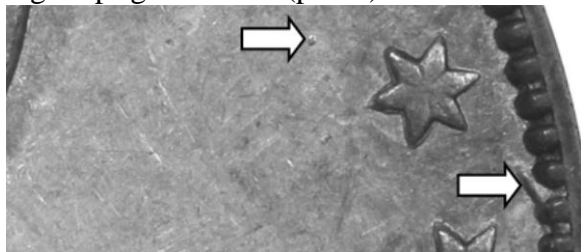
Reverse E

1848-O WB-9, Large O

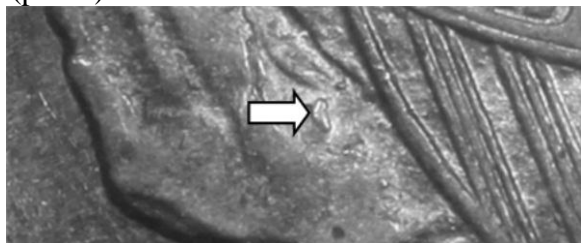
Obverse 5



- Date far left; EDS only: small tine on upper right upright of the 1 (photo)



- Die gouge in the dentils between stars 11-12; small lump in field to the upper left of star 11 (photo)

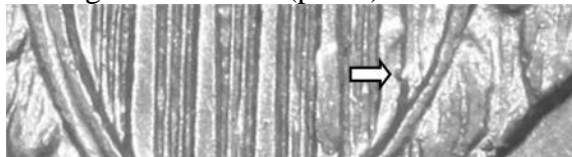


- Lump in rock to the left of the shield (photo); other lumps on the inside point of star 1 and throughout Liberty's gown
- Clash in drapery under Liberty's elbow
- Very rusty die with lumps on Liberty's throat, chest, gown, and within shield

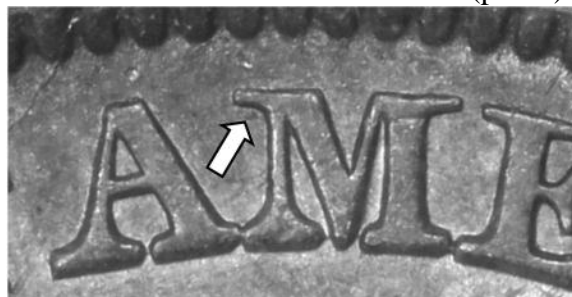
Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lump in the recessed area next to shield line F1 of the lower shield (photo)



- Small lump under the upper left serif of (A)M(ERICA) (photo)



- Die cracks thru much of the legend; prominently above the UNITED (photo)

This is the first use of this obverse die and the second use of this reverse die.

This die paring has a remarriage. See next page for details.

Date grid: L3.5, .014"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	WB-9: Rarity - 3 WB-9R: Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: WB-9 : Full WB-9R: None	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O

WB-9 and WB-9R Remarriage

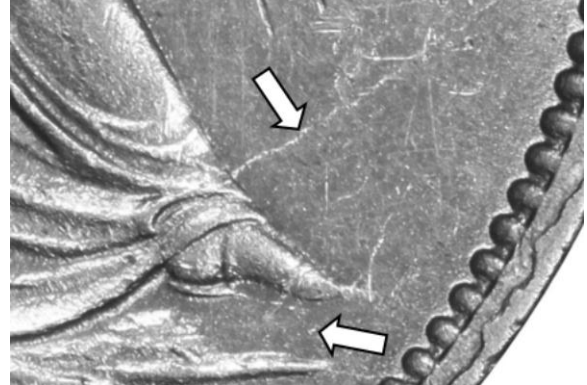
Randy Wiley with his extensive and thorough research of this date discovered this remarriage. The obverse die is the key to identifying this remarriage. WB-10, with the same obverse die as WB-9, was struck in between WB-9 and WB-9R. Fortunately, definitive and readily recognizable die diagnostics allow easy identification of the WB-9 First marriage and the WB-9R Remarriage. The key obverse die differences are depicted below.

WB-9 First marriage



Full foot support and no die crack from the instep of Liberty's foot

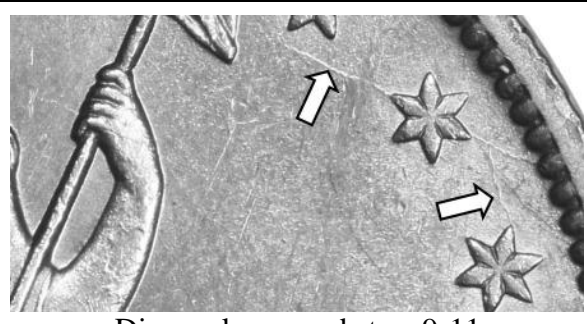
WB-9R Remarriage



No foot support and die crack from the instep of Liberty's foot



Uncracked around stars 9-11



Die cracks around stars 9-11

1848-O
WB-9, Large O



Obverse 5



Reverse E (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1848-O WB-10, Large O

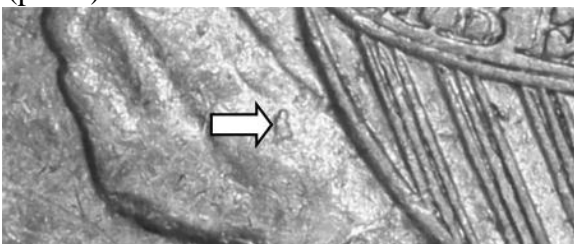
Obverse 5



- Date left (photo)

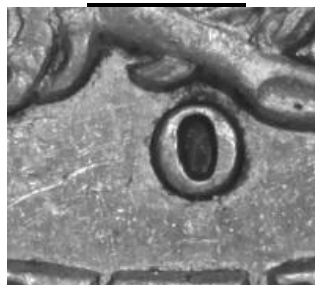


- Die gouge in the dentils between stars 11-12 that fades with die state to barely visible (photo)

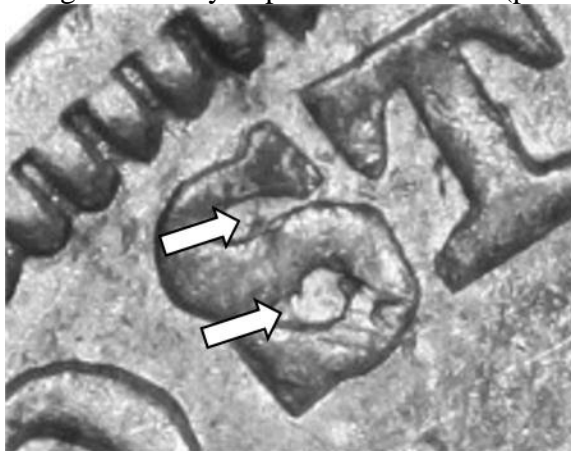


- Lump in rock to the left of the shield (photo); other lumps throughout Liberty's gown
- Clash in drapery under Liberty's elbow
- Very rusty die with lumps on Liberty's throat, chest, gown, and within shield

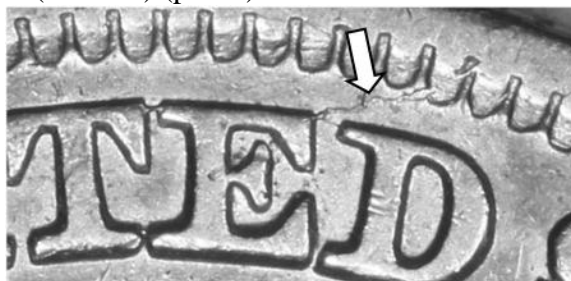
Reverse F



- Large O heavily impressed mintmark (photo)



- All die states: heavy diagonal die line thru S(TATES) (photo)



- LDS: die cracks along the top of the letters of most of the legend; prominently from (UNIT)E(D) to dentils above D (photo)
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the second and last use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L3.5, .014"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.188"	Rarity - 2
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak to None	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU50 LDS: XF45		EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-10, Large O



Obverse 5



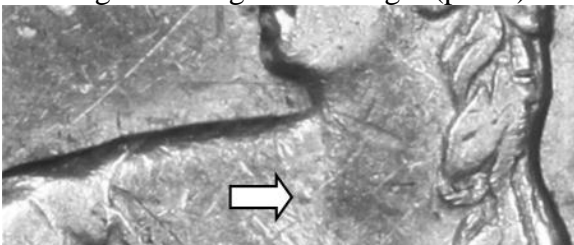
Reverse F

1848-O WB-11, Large O

Obverse 6



- Date right slanting down to right (photo)

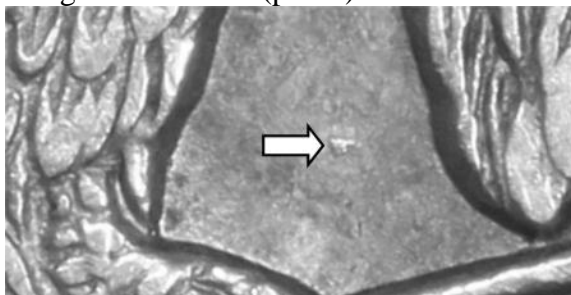


- Rust lump at the base of Liberty's throat (photo)
- Rusty die with wavy rust remnants on Liberty visible on high grade coins only

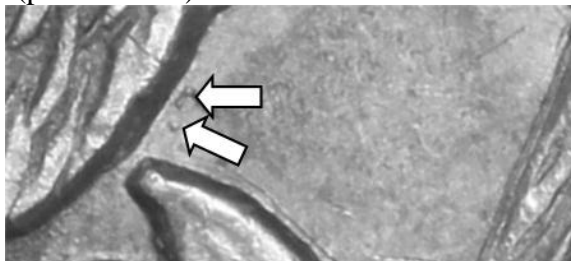
Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Many rust lumps including in the field under the right wing (photo above) and under the left wing above the tip of the upper olive leaf (photo below)



- Die starting to crack along the top of letters UNITED

This is the first use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .018"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-11, Large O



Obverse 6



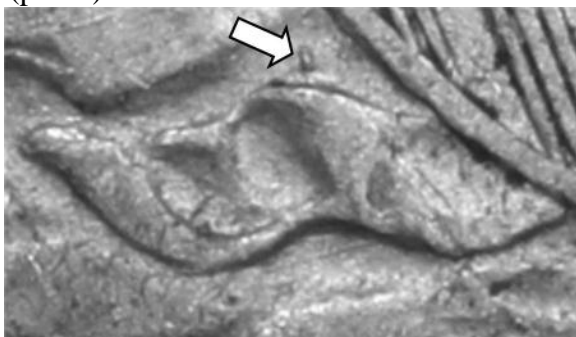
Reverse G

1848-O WB-12, Large O

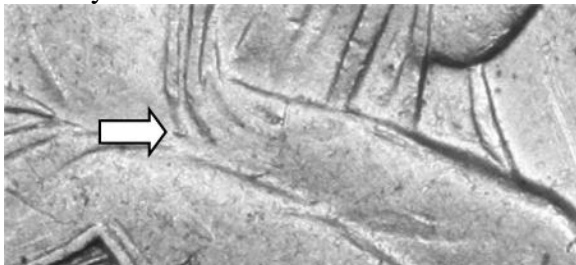
Obverse 3



- Date centered and slanting down to the right (photo)



- Small lump in the rock support above the ribbon's upper edge (photo); note also the nearly horizontal die line in the rock support directly below the ribbon



- Small lump in Liberty's lap (photo)

Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- Most of the rust seen on the previous use of this die (WB-11) is now polished away.



- All examples seen: die cracks thru most of the legend, denomination, and olive leaves; prominently, thru HALF DOL (photo above), along top of letters UNITED, and diagonally thru (AME)RIC(A) (photo below)



This is the second use of this obverse die and the second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .019"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.186"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1848-O
WB-12, Large O**



Obverse 3



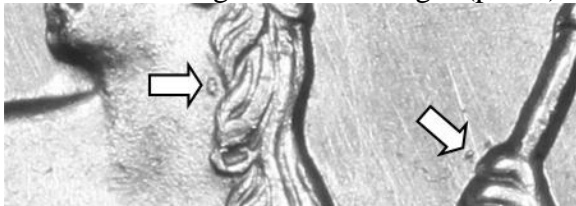
Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1848-O WB-13, Large O

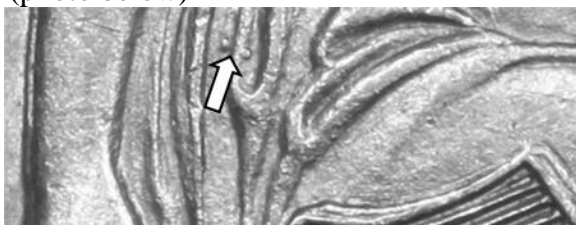
Obverse 7



- Date left slanting down to the right (photo)



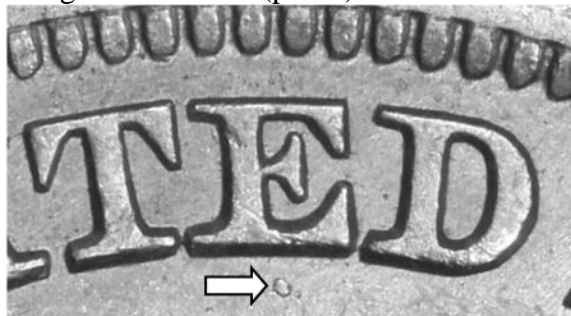
- Many lumps on this obverse including on Liberty's neck to the left of the hair, in the field aside the right index finger (photo above), and in Liberty's gown to the right of her wrist (photo below)



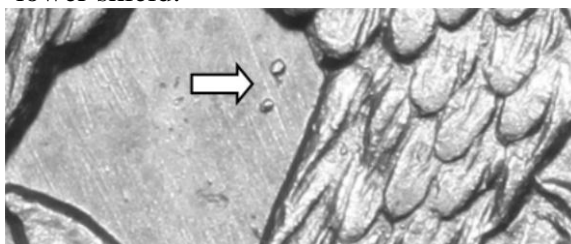
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Many lumps on this reverse including in the field below (UNIT)E(D) (photo above), in the field below both wings (left wing shown in photo below), and on the eagle and inside the lower shield.



- LDS: die cracks thru the legend, denomination, and the olive leaves. See enhanced die cracks on the next page.

This is the first use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.194"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Partial	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU58		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-13, Large O



Obverse 7



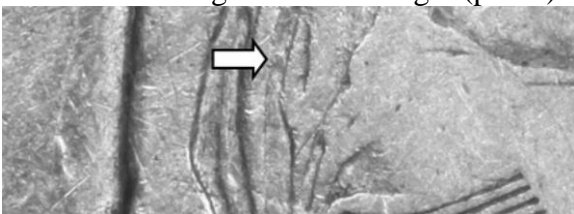
Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1848-O WB-14, Large O

Obverse 7



- Date left slanting down to the right (photo)



- This obverse die is noted for the many lumps in the fields and on Liberty (See WB-13). On this worn example (only one seen to date), most of those are not visible most likely from the circulation wear on the coin. The lumps in Liberty's gown to the right of her wrist (photo) are faintly visible.
- The date position and orientation are consistent with obverse 7 on WB-13.

Reverse B



- Large O mintmark with the lower half missing (photo)



- All die states: extensive die cracks thru legend, denomination, olive leaves, and prominently thru arrowheads (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right
- This reverse die is transitional with 1847-O (Reverse D).

This is the second use of this obverse die and the fifth and final use of this reverse die in 1848. Counting the use of this die in 1847-O, this reverse die was used in an incredible ten die marriages. I doubt the rarity rating of this die marriage will change much. After years of searching, this is the only example seen to date. Others very likely exist but, overall, this die marriage is rare.

Date grid: L5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.196"	Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Weak	
Grade of coin depicted: VG8		Coin from the Dick Osburn Collection	
Cross reference: WB-103.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-14, Large O



Obverse 7



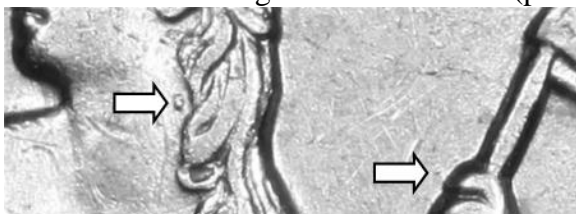
Reverse B (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1848-O WB-15, Large O

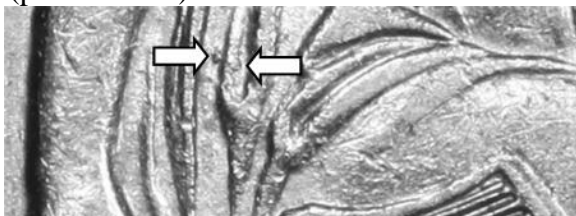
Obverse 7



- Date left slanting down to the right now with a faint die crack along the base of the 48 (photo)



- Many lumps on this obverse including on Liberty's neck to the left of the hair, in the field aside the right index finger (photo above), and in Liberty's gown to the right of her wrist (photo below)

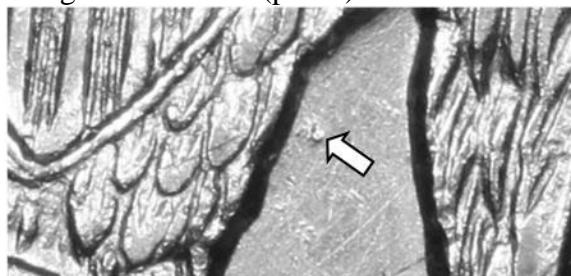


- Die crack thru stars 11-13

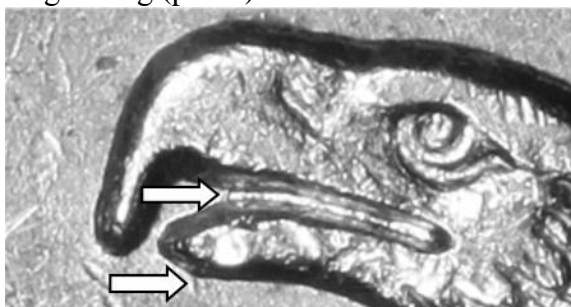
Reverse I



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Rust lump in the field below the eagle's right wing and die crack along the inside of the eagle's leg (photo)



- Vertical die line thru eagle's mouth (photo)
- Unfinished under the olive leaves
- This reverse die is transitional with 1850-O (reverse F).

This is the third use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .016"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.196"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-15, Large O



Obverse 7



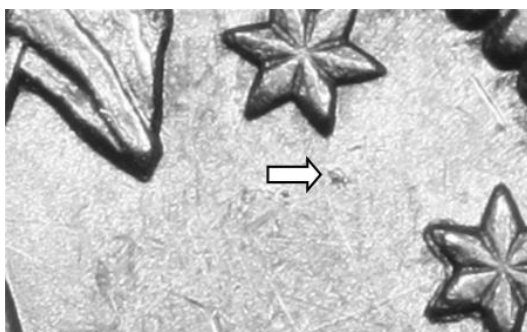
Reverse I

1848-O WB-16, Large O

Obverse 8



- Date left with a small lump in the field to the upper right of the 1 (photo above and below). Note the file line from the top of the 4 (photo above)

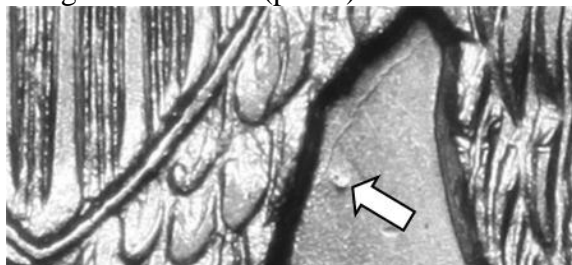


- Small lump in the field between stars 9-10 (photo)
- Rusty die

Reverse I



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Rust lump in the field below the eagle's right wing (photo); note the die crack along the inside of the wing
- Thin die line from right center of A(MERICA) across ME and out the top of R to the dentil
- Die cracks just starting thru the legend
- Unfinished under the olive leaves
- This reverse die is transitional with 1850-O (reverse F).

This is the only use of this obverse die and the second and last use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L4.5, .019"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.196"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS62		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-16, Large O



Obverse 8



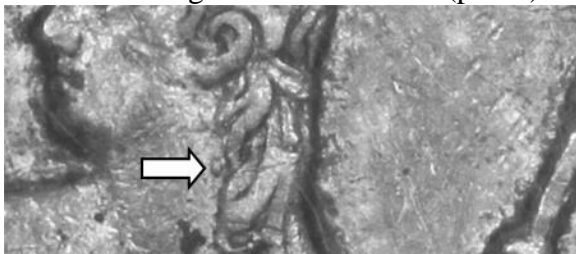
Reverse I

1848-O WB-17, Large O

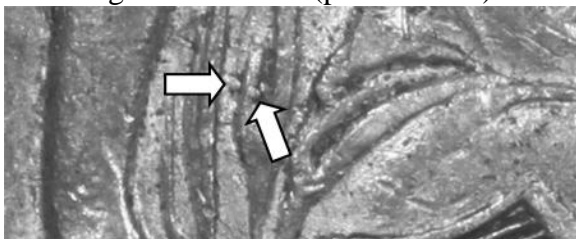
Obverse 7



- Date left slanting down to the right with a faint die crack along the base of the 48 (photo)



- Many lumps on this obverse including on Liberty's neck to the left of the hair (photo). The lumps next to the right index finger seen on previous uses of this obverse die are now polished away. Other lumps in Liberty's gown to the right of her wrist (photo below)

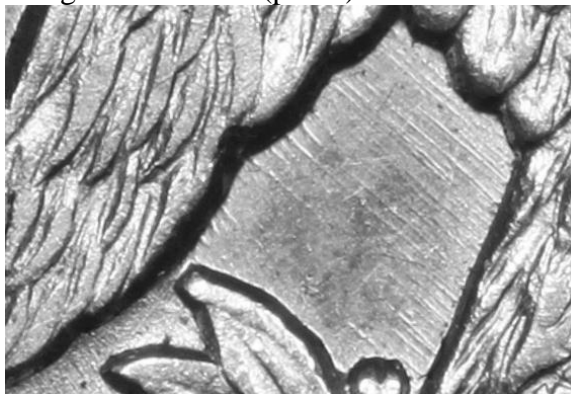


- Die crack thru stars 11-13

Reverse J



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All die states: many diagonal (NW to SE) die lines above and under the eagle's left wing (photo) and above the mintmark (photo above)



- EDS: die uncracked; LDS: die cracks thru legend eventually with cud above UNITE(D) (photo)
- Unfinished under the olive leaves

This is the fourth use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .018"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.191"	Rarity - 3 With reverse cud, Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF45 LDS: XF40, VF30		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coins from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-17, Large O



Obverse 7



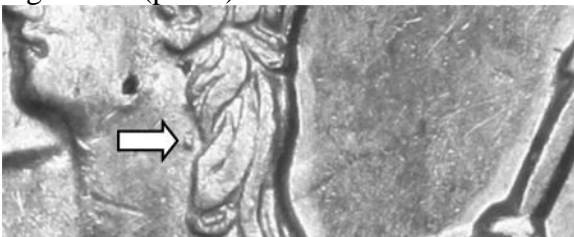
Reverse J

1848-O WB-18, Large O

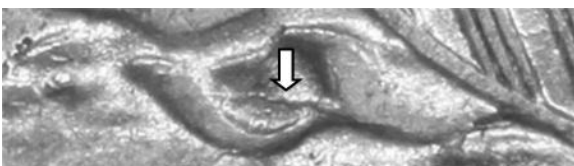
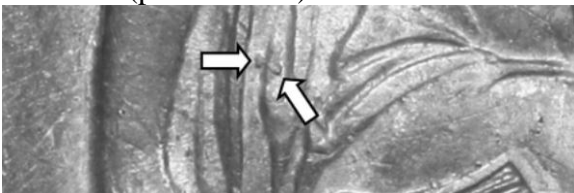
Obverse 7



- Date left slanting down to the right with a faint die crack along the base of the date into the right field (photo). Note weak date.



- Many lumps on this obverse including on Liberty's neck to the left of the hair (photo). Other lumps in Liberty's gown to the right of her wrist (photo below)



- Die crack thru most stars and horizontally thru ribbon (photo)

Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- No readily identifiable die characteristics
- Heavily clashed die which is an uncommon occurrence with this date (photo)
- Unfinished under olive leaves
- EDS: faint vertical die line along the left side of the mintmark to the feather tip

This is the fifth and final use of this die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .019"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-18, Large O



Obverse 7



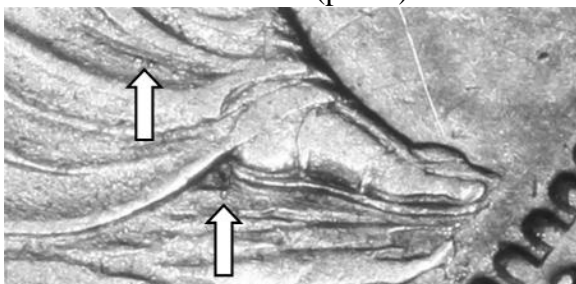
Reverse K

1848-O WB-19, Large O

Obverse 9



- Date left and high, the highest of all the obverse dies in 1848-O (photo)

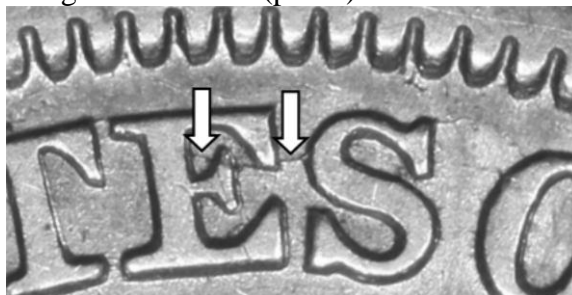


- Twin lumps in the gown behind Liberty's heel and another in the rock support below the heel (photo)
- Rusty die

Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All examples seen: arching die crack thru (STAT)ES (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right; heavy clash marks under the eagle's right wing, seen on WB-17, have been polished away
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the only use of this obverse die and the second use of this reverse die.
This reverse die is slightly rotated counter-clockwise.

Date grid: L5.5, .009"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.195"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-19, Large O



Obverse 9



Reverse K

1848-O WB-20, Large O

Obverse 10



- Date far left (photo)



- Small lump in the rock support below the gown's loop (photo)

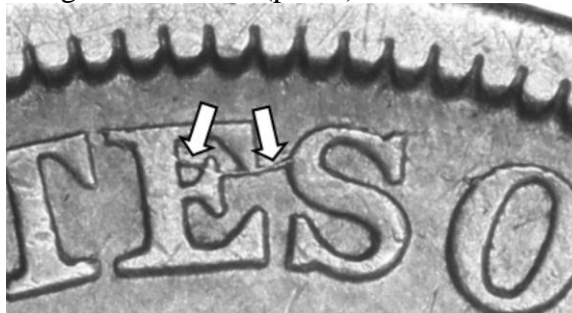


- All examples seen: rim cuds from K-12-K-2 (photo)
- LDS: die crack from outer pint of star 13 to the adjacent dentil

Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All examples seen: arching die crack thru (STAT)ES (photo); other die cracks thru the legend, denomination, and olive leaves
- Clash in shield's lower right
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the only use of this obverse die and the third use of this reverse die.
This die paring has a remarriage. See next page for details.

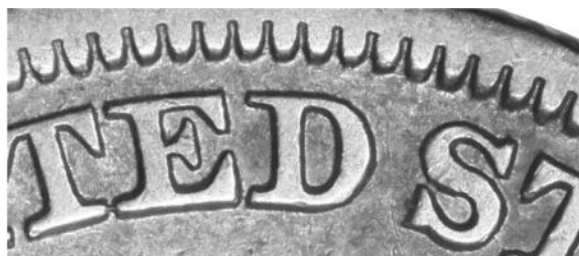
Date grid: L3.5, .022"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.197"	WB-20: Rarity - 3 WB-20R: Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: WB-20: XF45 WB-20R: AU50		Coins from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O

WB-20 and WB-20R Remarriage

Randy Wiley with his extensive and thorough research of this date discovered this remarriage. The reverse die is the key to identifying this remarriage. WB-21 and WB-22, with the same reverse die as WB-20, were struck in between WB-20 and WB-20R. Fortunately, definitive and readily recognizable die diagnostics allow fairly easy identification of the WB-20 First marriage and the WB-20R Remarriage. The key reverse die differences are depicted below.

WB-20 First marriage



No die crack from (UNIT)E(D) to dentils

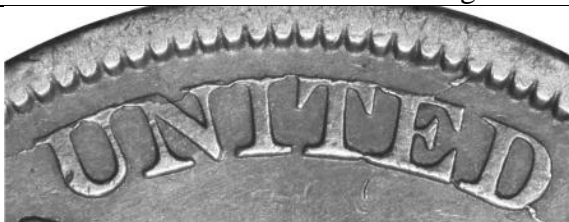
WB-20R Remarriage



Die crack from (UNIT)E(D) to dentil above the right serif of the E. This die crack is not on the WB-21 die marriage and consequently will only be found on the WB-20R Remarriage coins.



Faint die crack along the top of letters UNITED



Heavy die crack along the top of letters UNITED which formed early but didn't get heavy until the WB-22 die marriage. Consequently, all WB-20R Remarriage coins will have this heavy die crack.

1848-O
WB-20R, Large O



Obverse 10



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

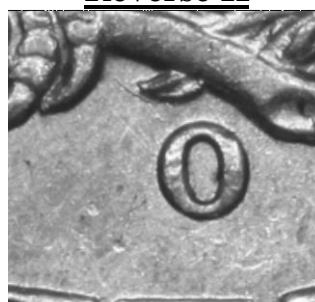
1848-O WB-21, Large O

Obverse 6

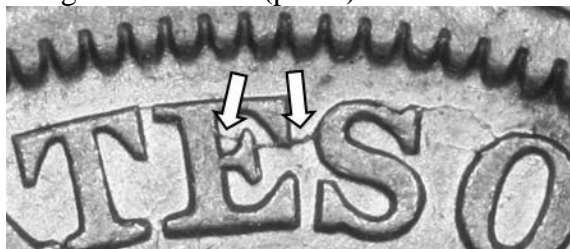


- Date right slanting down to right (photo)
- Rust lump at the base of Liberty's throat seen on the previous use of this die (WB-11) is not visible in this die state.
- Rusty die with wavy rust remnants on Liberty visible on high grade coins only
- No major discernible characteristics for this die

Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All examples seen: arching die crack thru (STAT)ES (photo); other die cracks thru the legend, denomination, and olive leaves
- Clash in shield's lower right
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and the fourth use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .020"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.197"	Rarity - 3
Draperies die state: Full	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-21, Large O



Obverse 6



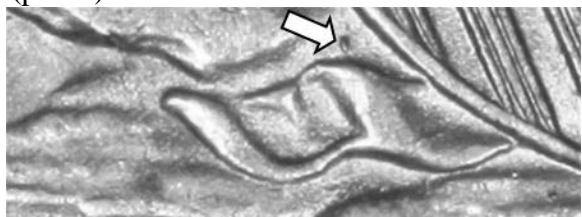
Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1848-O WB-22, Large O

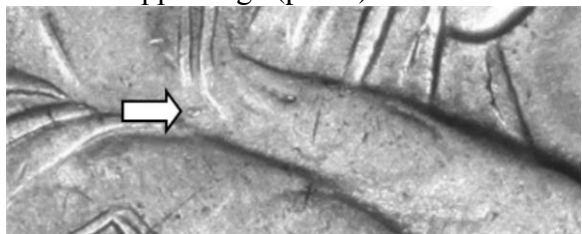
Obverse 3



- Date centered and slanting down to the right (photo)



- Small lump in the rock support above the ribbon's upper edge (photo)

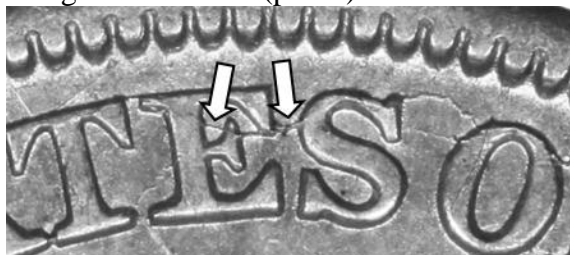


- Small lump in Liberty's lap (photo)
- Very weak die crack from Liberty's forehead to the dentil directly above and another along the rock support below the ribbon

Reverse K



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All examples seen: arching die crack thru (STAT)ES (photo); other extensive die cracks thru the legend, denomination, and olive leaves
- Clash in shield's lower right
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the third and final use of this obverse die and the fifth and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .024"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.197"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: None	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-22, Large O



Obverse 3



Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

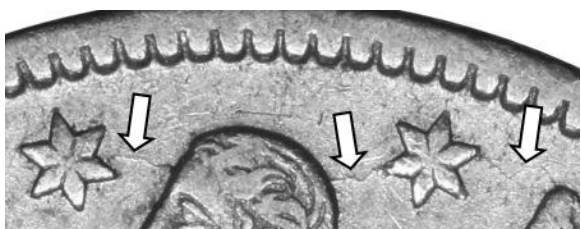
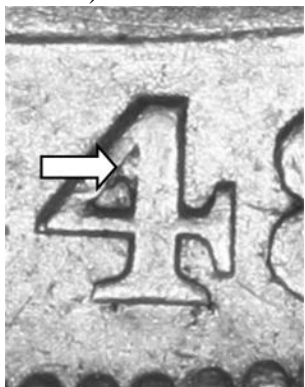
1848-O

WB-23, Large O, Filled 4

Obverse 11



- Date left with upper angle of the 4 filled (photo above and below)



- All examples seen: die crack from star 7 thru Liberty's head thru star 8 to cap (photo) to star 10; additional cracks thru stars 3-7

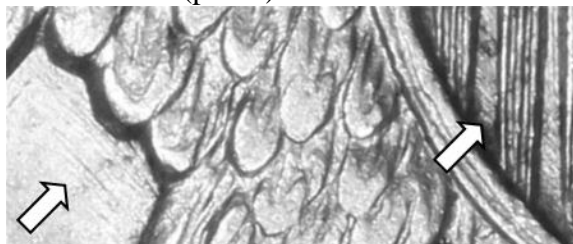
Reverse L



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Nearly vertical die line between the lower two arrow shafts (photo)



- Diagonal (NW to SE) die lines below the eagle's left wing and in the lower left shield (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right
- Unfinished under the olive leaves

This is the only use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L4.5, .022"

147 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.194"

Rarity - 3

Drapery die state: Full

Foot support: Full

Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: AU50

Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection

Cross reference: WB-104.

Version 4.68

1848-O
WB-23, Large O, Filled 4



Obverse 11



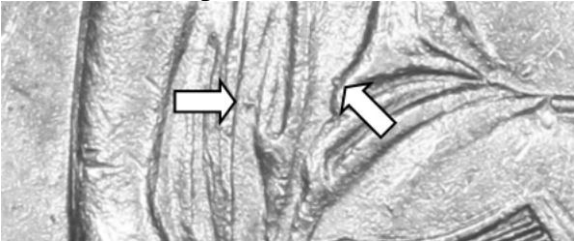
Reverse L

1848-O WB-24, Large O

Obverse 12



- Date centered (photo)

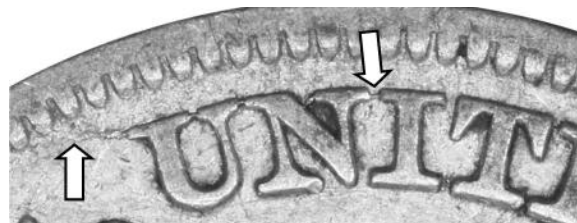


- Two small lumps in Liberty's gown above the upper shield tip (photo); another on Liberty's right calf
- A few very weak die cracks between stars 3-5 and from star 10

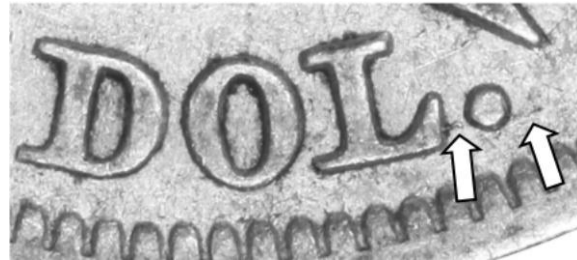
Reverse M



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- No discernible die diagnostics unrelated to die state



- LDS: die crack above UNIT(ED) (photo above) and thru along the base of DOL. (photo below)



- Unfinished under the olive leaves

This is the first use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .020"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.192"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU55 LDS: VF30		EDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection LDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-24, Large O



Obverse 12



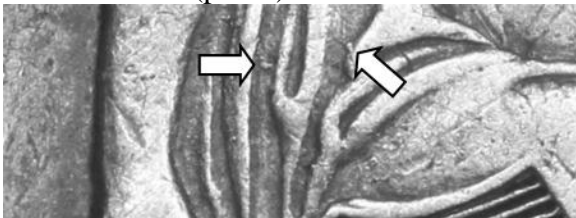
Reverse M

1848-O WB-25, Large O

Obverse 12



- Date centered (photo)

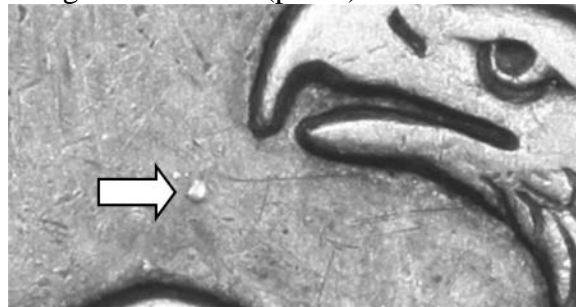


- Two small lumps in Liberty's gown above the upper shield tip (photo)

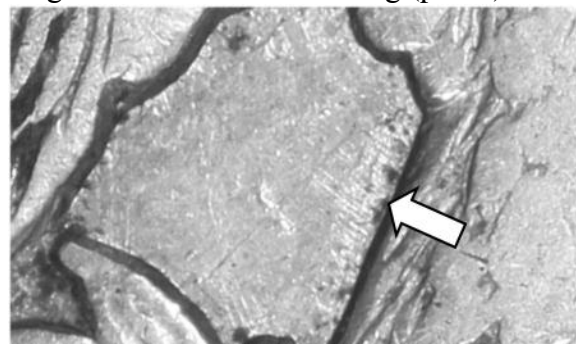
Reverse N



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All die states: many rust lumps in the fields and on the eagle; prominently between the eagle's beak and the left wing (photo)



- EDS: diagonal die lines along the eagle's left leg under the left wing (photo)

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

At least one LDS example with a 25° counter-clockwise reverse seen. Others likely exist possibly with a different degree of rotation.

Date grid: M1, .022"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.190"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-25, Large O



Obverse 12



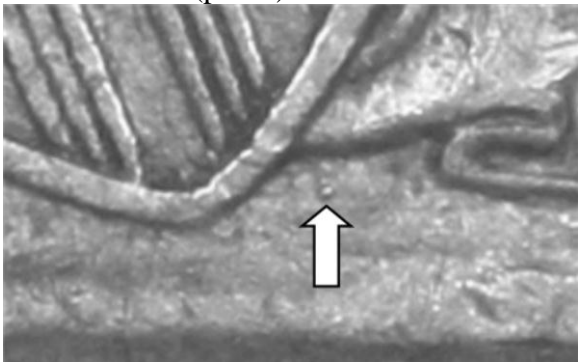
Reverse N

1848-O WB-26, Large O

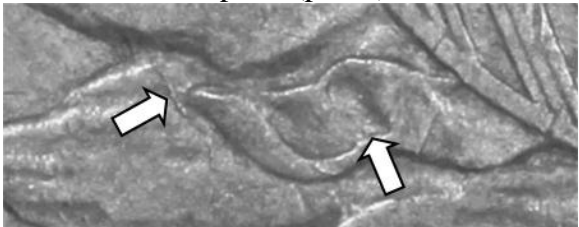
Obverse 13



- Date centered (photo)



- Small lump in the rock support to the right of the lower shield point (photo)

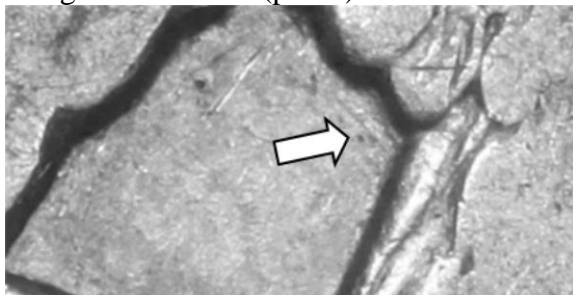


- Rust lumps on the ribbon and a die crack in the rock support to the left of the ribbon (photo); other die cracks thru stars 4-5 and 9-11

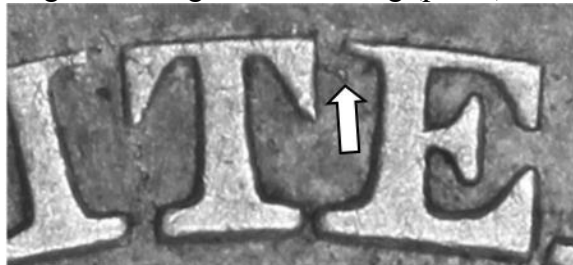
Reverse O



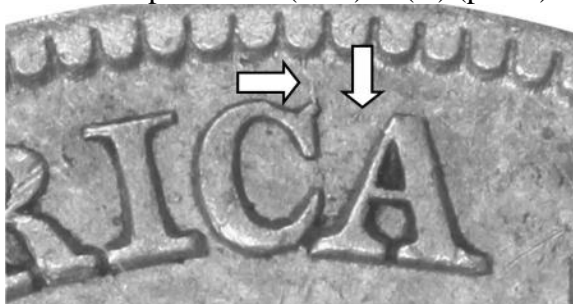
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Weak diagonal (NW to SE) die lines along the eagle's left leg under the wing (photo)



- Small lump between (UNI)TE(D) (photo)



- All examples seen: die crack thru (AMERI)CA (photo)

This is the only use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .014"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.192"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1848-O
WB-26, Large O



Obverse 13



Reverse O

1849-O

Some collectors may initially believe 1849-O is a boring date to collect; however 1849-O is interesting for a number of reasons. Almost all of the obverse dies show at least minimal and often extensive evidence of rust (splotchy lumps and weakening of the details) and there are many examples of die rotations. While a few other early New Orleans dated half dollars have die rotations, 1849-O can be noted as the date for collectors wishing to assemble a large collection of same date different rotated reverse dies. 1849-O has at least nineteen different rotations and many others likely exist.

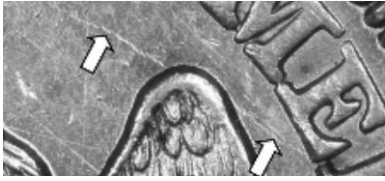
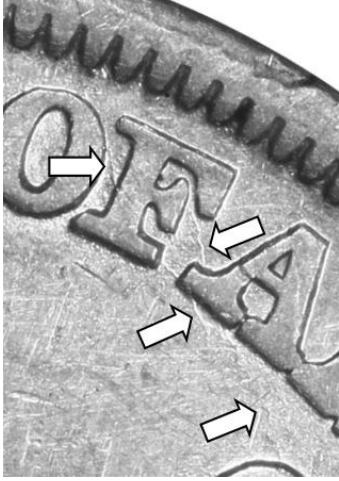
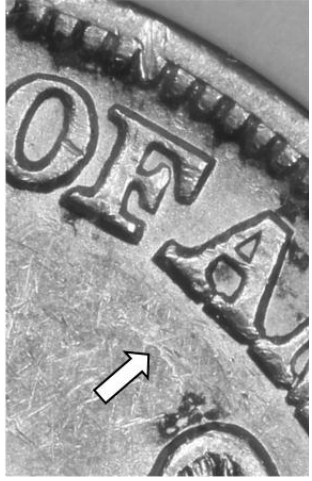
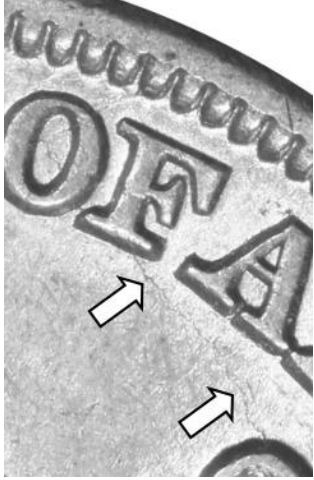
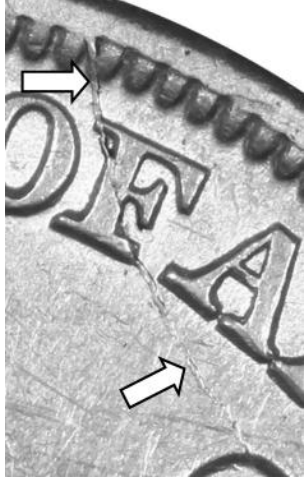
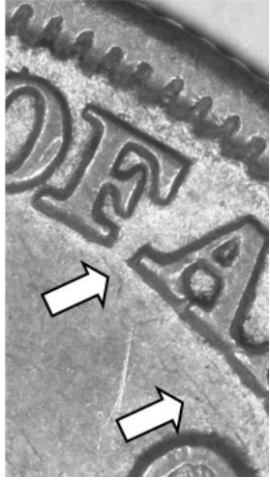
Sixteen die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
2,310,000	Requested		-	-	3 (141, 147, 148)
	Shipped	-	12	12	
	Known	16	11	12	

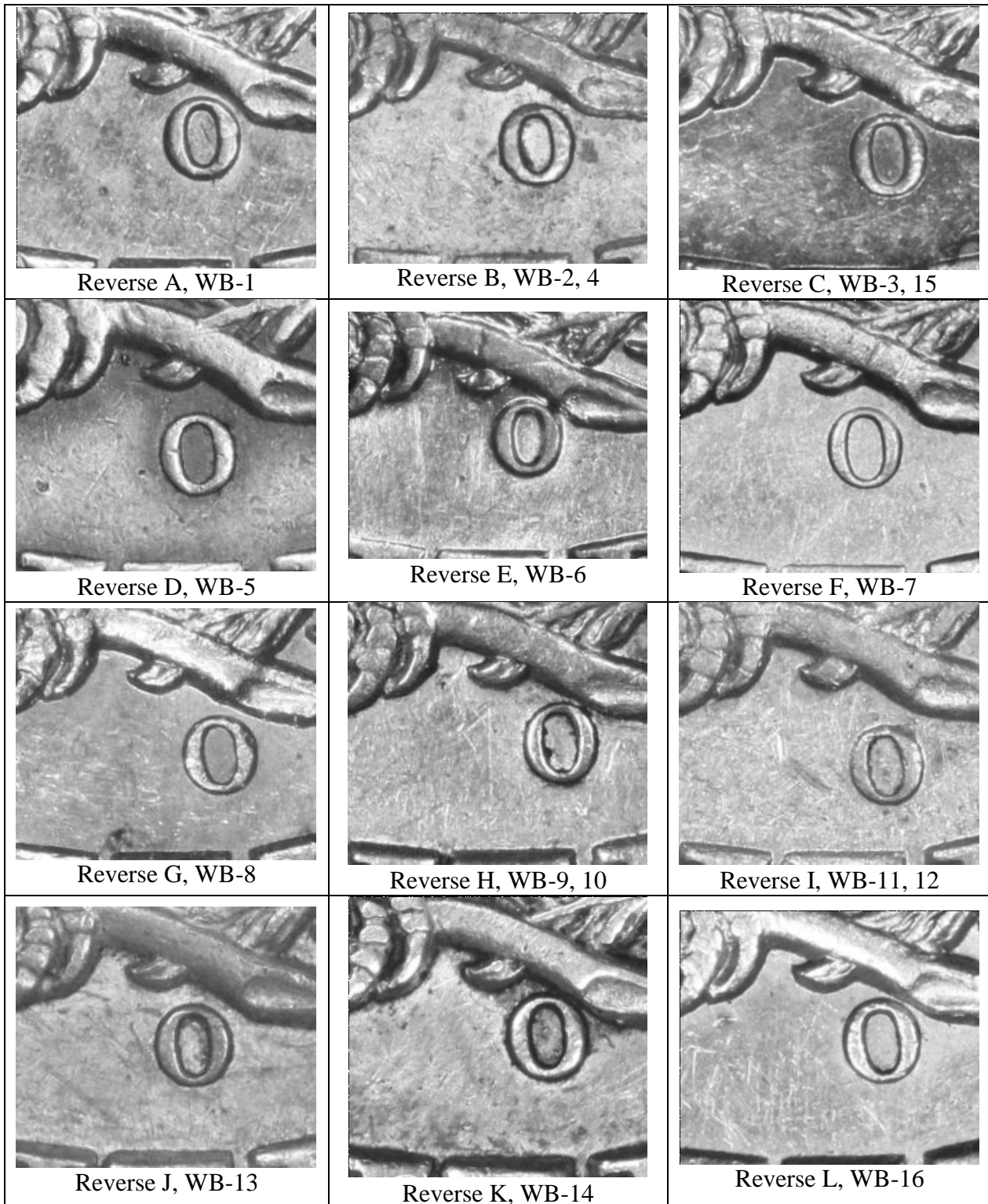
1849-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
L5.5 , .018"	WB-5
L5.5 , .020"	WB-10
L5.5 , .022"	WB-7
L5.5 , .030"	WB-3
L5.5 , .032"	WB-4
M1 , .014"	WB-12
M1 , .016"	WB-13
M1.5, .014"	WB-1
M1.5, .022"	WB-11
M1.5, .025"	WB-14
M1.5, .025"	WB-15
M1.5, .025"	WB-16
M1.5, .026"	WB-2
M2 , .026"	WB-6
M2.5, .014"	WB-8
M2.5, .018"	WB-9

Similar die cracks from the eagle's right wing. Half the 1849-O reverse dies (six of the twelve) have, in varying degrees of die state, a die crack from the same location, the eagle's upper right wing tip. These die cracks all look very similar upon first glance and apparently are difficult to attribute correctly; however, close scrutiny of these die cracks show they are indeed very different and can be used to easily distinguish the dies. To aid readers in scrutinizing and attributing an 1849-O half dollar with one of these die cracks, shown below are the close-up images and short descriptions of these reverse dies.

 <p>WB-1: die crack above the right wing tip; above: into the field away from the letters OF AMERICA</p>	 <p>WB-6: die crack thru the lower left base of the A, double crack diagonally thru the OF</p>	 <p>WB-8: die crack into field below OF A towards the O(F)</p>
 <p>WB-9 and 10: die crack to the middle of the base of (O)F</p>	 <p>WB-11 and 12: die crack to the lower right base of the (O)F and diagonally thru F to the rim</p>	 <p>WB-13: die crack to the middle right of the base of the (O)F, then diagonally into the O(F)</p>

1849-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions



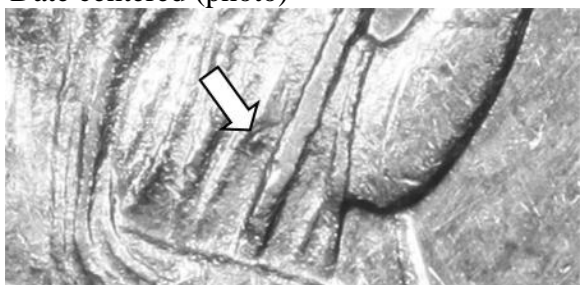
1849-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Die lines thru (AMER)ICA	Small lumps in the eagle's tail feathers behind the arrow feathers	Rust lumps in the recessed area of the olive stem	Die lines in the shield's lower left	Mintmark that touches the olive stem	Die crack from rim at K-3 thru (AMERIC)A	Mintmark high and right	Mintmark high, right, and close to the olive stem	Mintmark to the right	Rust lumps in the eagle's right wing	Die crack from M to the dentil	Die lines thru the lower shield
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
Rust lump near the pole	1	WB-1											
Many gouges throughout Liberty	2		WB-2										
Clash lines across lap	3		WB-4	WB-3									
Date slanting down to right	4				WB-5								
Heavily rusted die	5					WB-6							
Lump at tip of ribbon	6						WB-7						
Gouge thru Liberty's left hand	7							WB-8	WB-9				
Lumps in the upper shield	8								WB-10				
Lump below left finger	9									WB-11			
Gouge in gown	10									WB-12	WB-13		
18 repunched	11			WB-15								WB-14	WB-16

1849-O WB-1, Large O

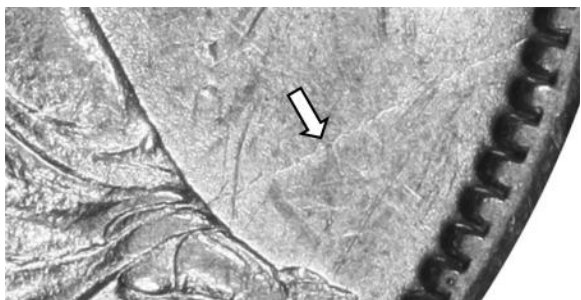
Obverse 1



- Date centered (photo)



- Rusty die: rust lump in the recessed area to the left of the pole (photo); other scattered lumps that show in various die states

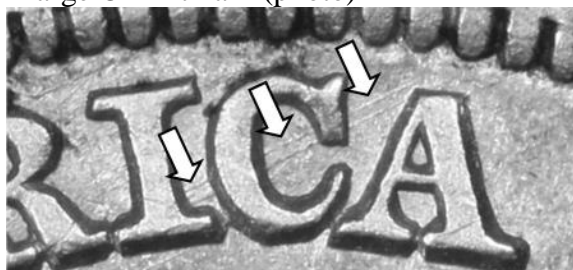


- LDS: die crack from Liberty's instep into right field to the dentils below star 13 (photo) and others thru stars 1-3 and head thru star 8

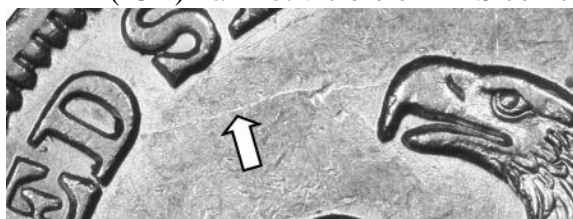
Reverse A



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- EDS - MDS: two diagonal die lines thru (AMER)ICA (photo); others in and around AMER(ICA) - all not visible on LDS coins



- LDS: die crack from eagle's beak to (UNITE)D (photo above) and another from (A)M(ERICA) thru the eagle's right wing (photo below)



This is the only use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Most examples seen of this die marriage have an 8° counter-clockwise reverse rotation.

Date grid: M1.5, .014"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 3
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Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: EDS: AU53 LDS: AU58	EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Randy Wiley Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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**1849-O
WB-1, Large O**



Obverse 1 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



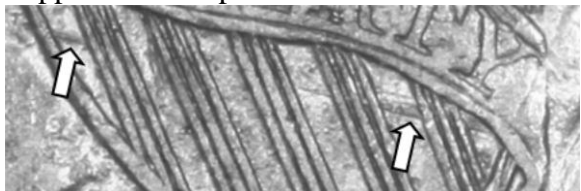
Reverse A (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1849-O WB-2, Large O

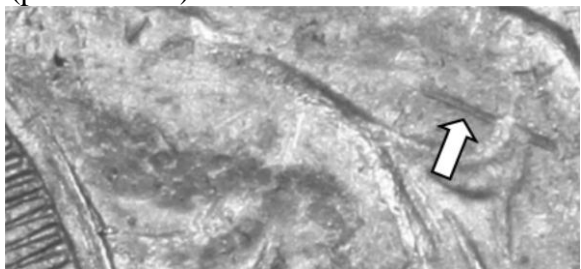
Obverse 2



- Weak date centered; weak lower edge of the rock support above the date (photo)
- LDS: die crack from the base of the rock support to the top left of the 1



- Many scattered die gouges and heavy die lines throughout Liberty; line thru lower shield (photo above) and across Liberty's right knee (photo below)

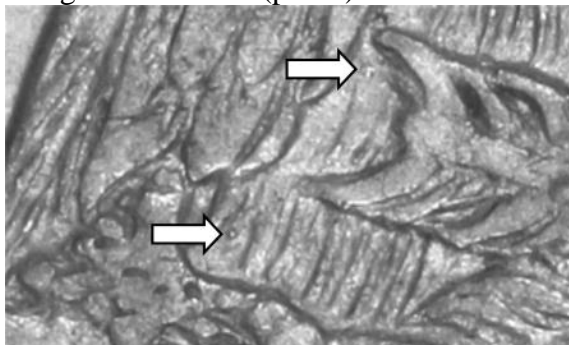


- Rusty die

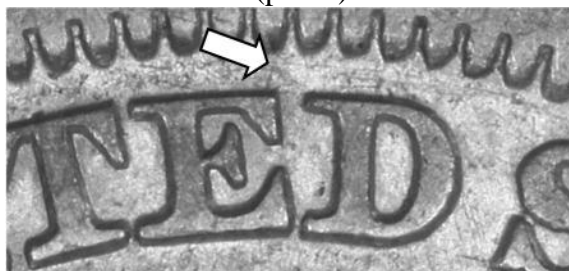
Reverse B



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lumps in the eagle's tail feathers behind the arrow feathers (photo)



- Die line from the (UNIT)E(D) to the dentil above the right edge of the serif (photo)

This is the only use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Most examples seen of this die marriage have a 10° counter-clockwise reverse rotation.

Date grid: M1.5, .026"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.199"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1849-O
WB-2, Large O



Obverse 2



Reverse B

1849-O WB-3, Large O

Obverse 3



- Weak date left with faint horizontal die lines thru the digits (photo)
- Rusty die
- No major discernible die diagnostics or die cracks

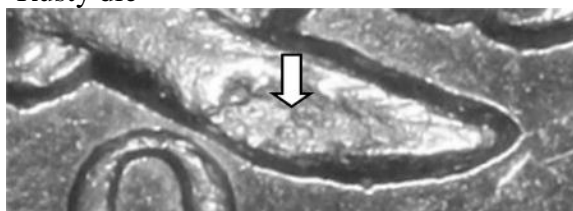


- All examples seen: very heavily clashed; clash lines across Liberty's lap (photo) and clash marks in the field below Liberty's elbow

Reverse C



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- Rusty die



- Small rust lumps in the recessed area of the olive stem (photo); others on the olive leaves
- No major discernible die diagnostics
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the first use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .030"

147 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.198"

Rarity - 4

Drapery die state: Partial

Foot support: Weak

Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: NGC AU58

Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection

Cross reference: WB-101.

Version 4.68

1849-O
WB-3, Large O



Obverse 3



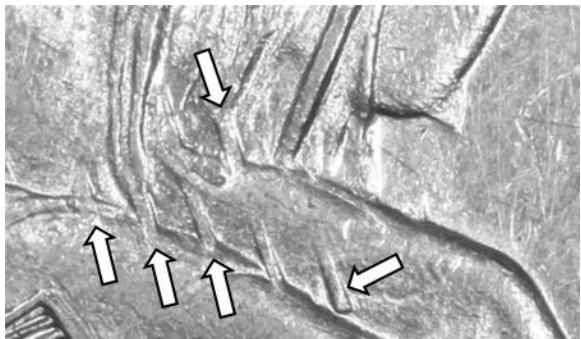
Reverse C

1849-O WB-4, Large O

Obverse 3



- Weak date left (photo)
- Rusty die
- No major discernible die diagnostics or die cracks

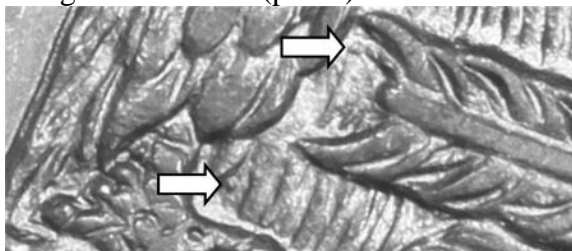


- All examples seen: very heavily clashed; clash lines across Liberty's lap (photo) and clash marks in the field below Liberty's elbow

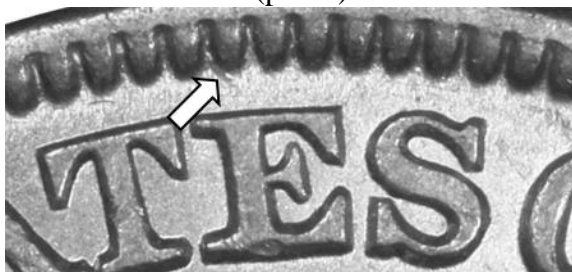
Reverse B



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small lumps in the eagle's tail feathers behind the arrow feathers (photo)



- Die line in the dentils above (STAT)E(S) (photo). The die line from the (UNIT)E(D) to the dentil above seen in the previous use of this reverse die (WB-2) is very weak here.

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and the second and final use of this reverse die. Several examples seen with a 9° counter-clockwise reverse rotation.

Date grid: L5.5, .032"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial to none	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1849-O
WB-4, Large O



Obverse 3



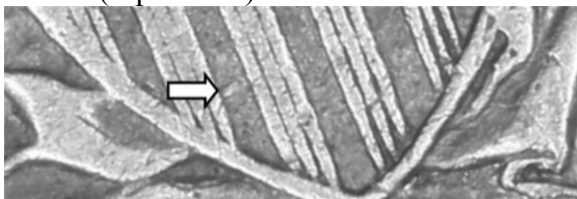
Reverse B

1849-O WB-5, Large O

Obverse 4



- Date left slanting down to right (photo); some EDS coins show a small tine from the upper right of the 1 (“spiked” 1)

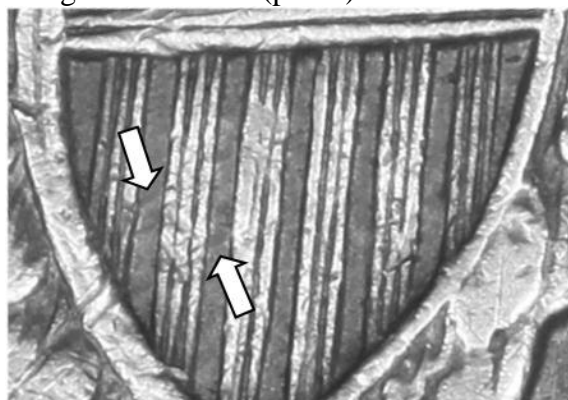


- Lumps in the lower shield (photo)
- EDS: clash in the field near Liberty’s elbow; later polished away
- EDS: strong halos on all stars

Reverse D



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All die states: diagonal (NE to SW) die lines in the shield’s lower left (photo)



- LDS: die crack from center of (STA)T(ES) to dentil above (photo)

This is the only use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

One EDS example seen with a 24° clockwise reverse rotation.

Date grid: L5.5, .018”	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.200”	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full to Partial	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1849-O
WB-5, Large O



Obverse 4



Reverse D

1849-O WB-6, Large O

Obverse 5



- Date right with the base of the date weak; date punched obliquely into the die. LDS: die crack diagonally thru the digits (photo)



- Heavily rusted die; many scattered rust lumps throughout Liberty and shield (photo)

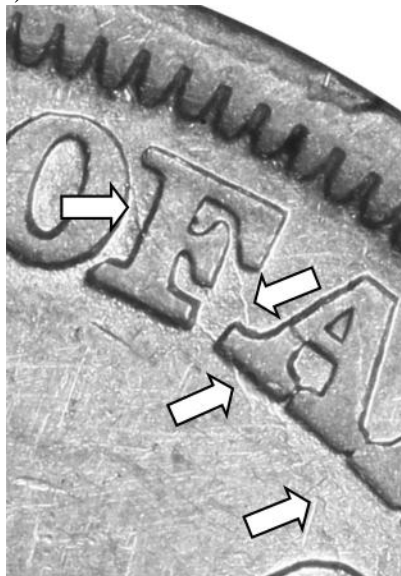


- LDS: die cracks thru stars 2-7 and from Liberty's head thru star 8 to cap thru stars 9-13 (photo)
- Most stars are flatly struck.

Reverse E



- Large O mintmark that touches the olive stem (photo)



- All examples seen: die crack from the eagle's upper right wing to A(MERICA) thru the OF to dentil centered above O(F) (photo)
- Few scattered rust lumps on the eagle

This is the only use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Many rotated reverse die coins seen: some with 5 and 8° counter-clockwise, another with a 21° clockwise. Other rotations likely exist.

Date grid: M2, .026"	147 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.203"	Rarity - 3
Draper die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1849-O
WB-6, Large O



Obverse 5



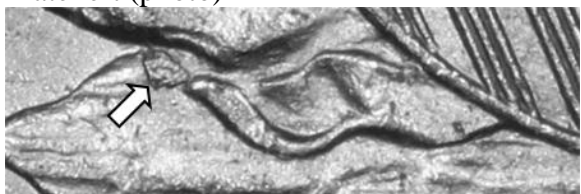
Reverse E (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1849-O WB-7, Large O

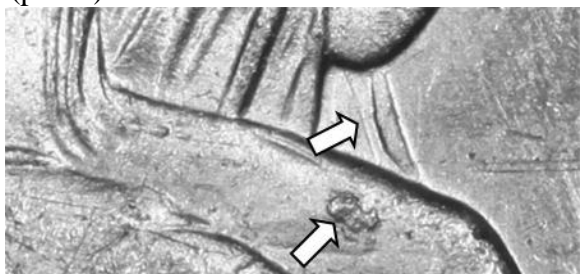
Obverse 6



- Date left (photo)



- Large lump in rock support at tip of ribbon (photo)

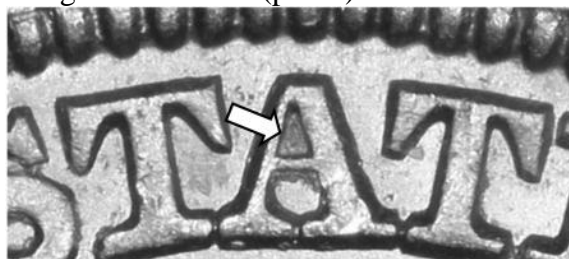


- Large rust lump on Liberty's right knee visible on high grade coins (photo)
- Diagonal die line in Liberty's drapery below the elbow (photo above)
- EDS: die cracks from star 7 thru Liberty's head, star 8, and cap; another thru stars 10-13

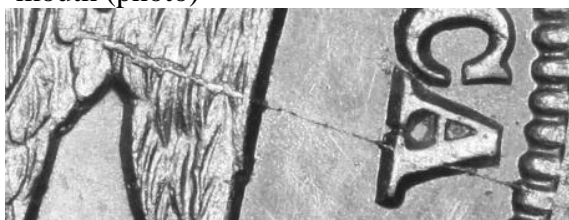
Reverse F



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Rust lumps in recessed areas of the reverse including filled upper (ST)A(TES), (AMERIC)A (photo below), and filled eagle's mouth (photo)



- All examples seen: die crack from rim at K-3 thru (AMERIC)A into the eagle's right wing to shield edge (photo)

This is the only use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Many rotated reverse die coins seen: some with 27 and 80° counter-clockwise, others with 50, 62, and 66° clockwise. Other rotations likely exist.

Date grid: L5.5, .022"	EDS: 147 reeds LDS: 148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS62		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1849-O
WB-7, Large O



Obverse 6



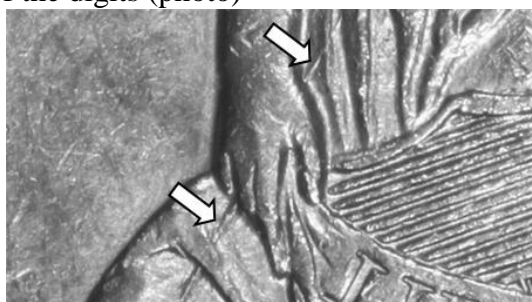
Reverse F (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1849-O WB-8, Large O

Obverse 7



- Date right with weak die crack along the base of the digits (photo)



- Die gouge diagonally thru Liberty's left hand (photo)

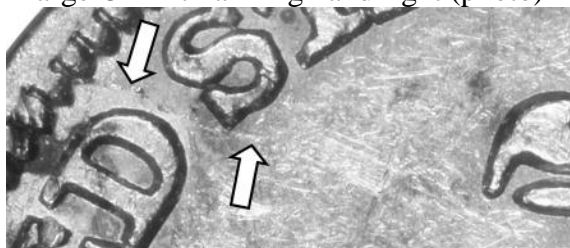


- LDS: die crack from the bridge of Liberty's nose to dentil above and from Liberty's chin to her left shoulder (photo)

Reverse G



- Large O mintmark high and right (photo)



- LDS: die crack from dentil between (UNITE)D S(TATES) into field towards the eagle's beak (photo)



- LDS: die crack from the eagle's right wing towards (O)F (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the first use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Many rotated reverse die coins seen: some with 9 and 35° counter-clockwise, others with 9 and 62° clockwise. Other rotations likely exist.

Date grid: M2.5, .014"	EDS: 147 reeds LDS: 148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.200"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Weak	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: ANACS AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1849-O
WB-8, Large O



Obverse 7



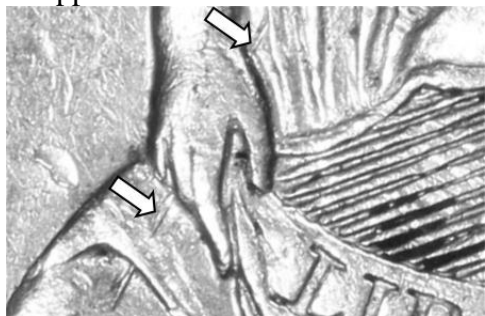
Reverse G (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1849-O WB-9, Large O

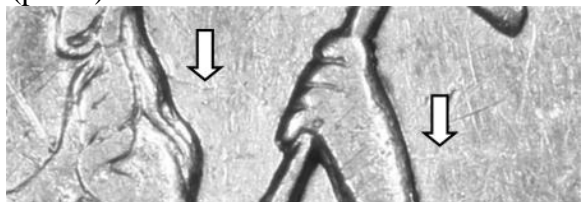
Obverse 7



- Weak date right with weak die crack along the base of the digits (photo); note the weakening rock support above the date



- Die gouge diagonally thru Liberty's left hand (photo)

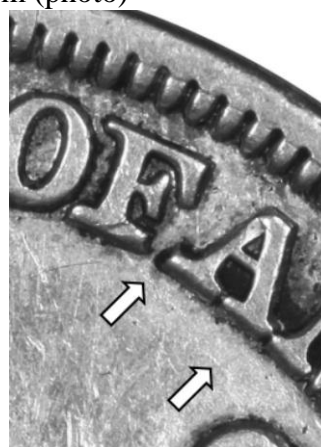


- LDS: die crack from the bridge of Liberty's nose to dentil above and from Liberty's chin to her left shoulder and another from Liberty's hair thru her right hand into the field (photo). Other die cracks thru stars 2-6

Reverse H



- Large O mintmark high, right, and close to the olive stem (photo)



- LDS: die crack from the eagle's right wing to (O)F (photo). Note similarities of the die crack with WB-8.



- Faint die crack between (STATE)S O(F) (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right and below right wing

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.
One example seen with a 15° clockwise rotation.

Date grid: M2.5, .018"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1849-O
WB-9, Large O



Obverse 7



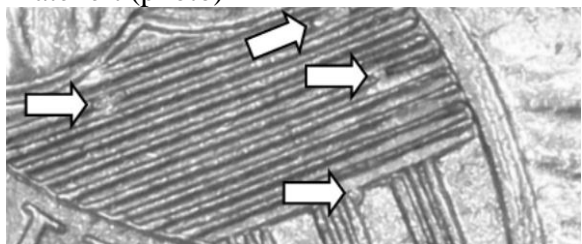
Reverse H

1849-O WB-10, Large O

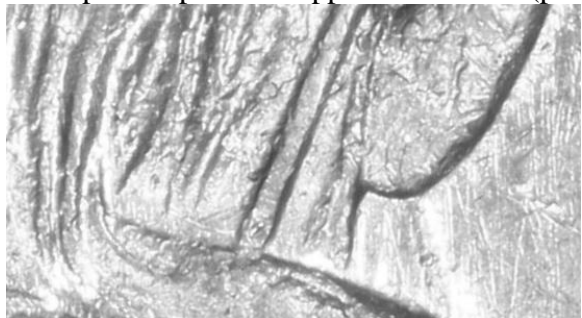
Obverse 8



- Date left (photo)



- Multiple lumps in the upper shield lines (photo)

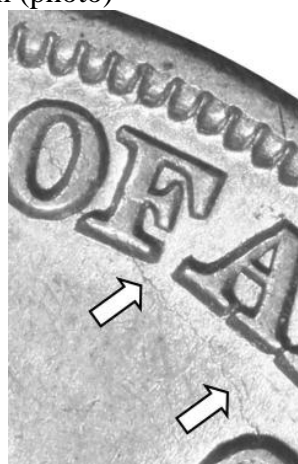


- Heavily rusted die with patchy rust throughout Liberty (photo)

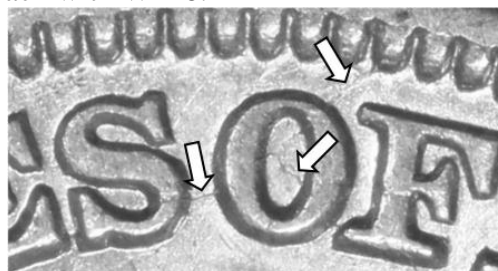
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark high, right, and close to the olive stem (photo)



- LDS: die crack from the eagle's right wing to (O)F (photo). Note similarities of the die crack with WB-8.



- All die states: die crack between (STATE)S O(F) to dentil above O (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the only use of this obverse die and the second and final use of this reverse die.
Examples seen with a 152° clockwise rotation.

Date grid: L5.5, .020"	EDS: 148 reeds LDS: 141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.201"	Rarity - 3
Dravery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1849-O
WB-10, Large O



Obverse 8



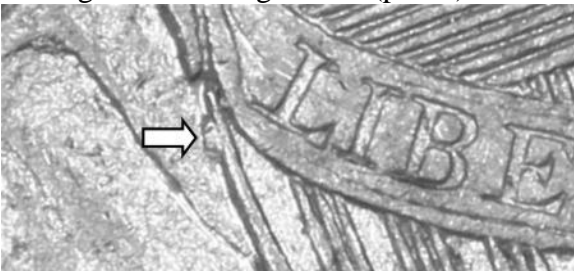
Reverse H (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1849-O WB-11, Large O

Obverse 9



- Date centered with a die crack along the base of the digits into the right field (photo)



- Rust lump below Liberty's left index finger along the shield's outer left (photo)

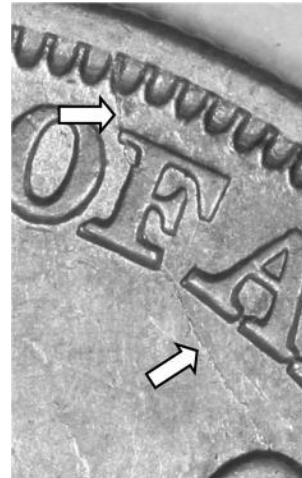


- LDS: bisecting die crack from K-9 thru Liberty to K-3 (photo) and another in the rock support to the left of the ribbon
- Very rusty die

Reverse I



- Large O mintmark low and to the right (photo)



- Most examples seen: die crack from the eagle's right wing diagonally thru (O)F to dentil above O (photo). Note similarities of the die crack with WB-8, 9, and 10.

This is the only use of this obverse die and the first use of this reverse die.

Examples seen with a 5 and 21° counter-clockwise rotation.

Date grid: M1.5, .022"	148 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 3 LDS: Rarity - 6
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: EDS: XF40 LDS: XF40		EDS coin from the Bill Bugert Collection LDS coin from the Scott Mickelson Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1849-O
WB-11, Large O**



Obverse 9 (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)



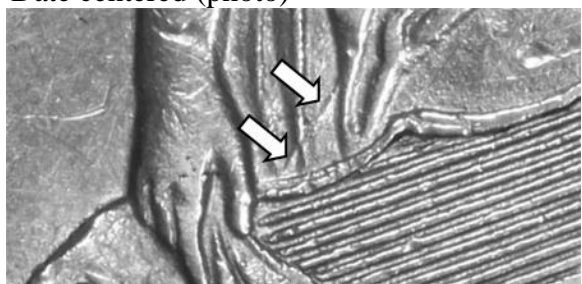
Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1849-O WB-12, Large O

Obverse 10



- Date centered (photo)



- Diagonal die gouge in Liberty's gown to the right of the left hand (photo)

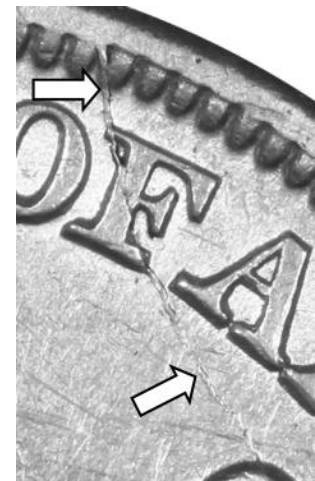


- LDS: die crack from Liberty's left shoulder diagonally thru Liberty's head to the dentil left of star 8 (photo); another from the rock support below the foot to the dentil at K-5

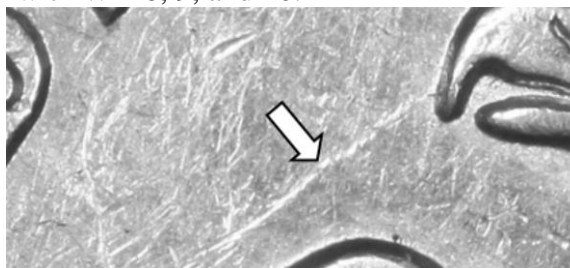
Reverse I



- Large O mintmark low and to the right (photo)



- All die states: die crack from the eagle's right wing diagonally thru (O)F to dentil above O (photo). Note similarities of the die crack with WB-8, 9, and 10.



- All die states: die crack from the eagle's beak into the left field above the left wing (photo)

This is the first use of this obverse die and the second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .014"

148 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.200"

Rarity - 4

Drapery die state: Partial

Foot support: Full

Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: AU50

Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection

Cross reference: WB-101.

Version 4.68

**1849-O
WB-12, Large O**



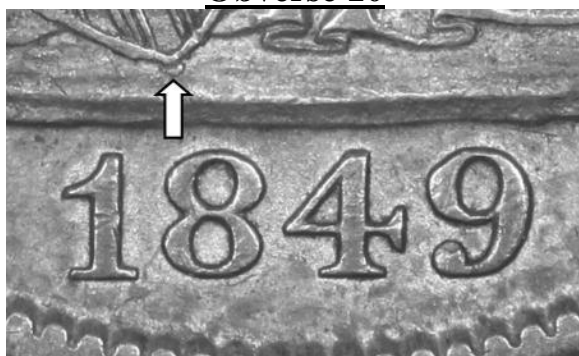
Obverse 10



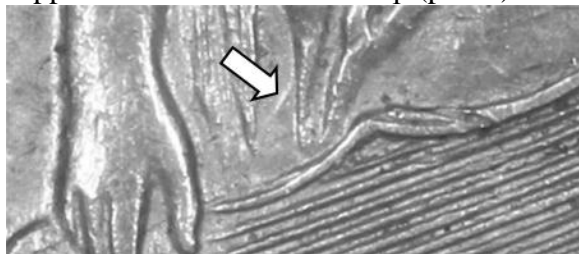
Reverse I (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1849-O WB-13, Large O

Obverse 10



- Date centered with a rust lump in the rock support at the shield's lower tip (photo)



- Weak diagonal die gouge in Liberty's gown to the right of the left hand (photo)

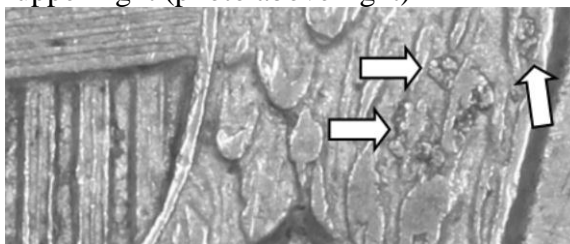


- All die states: die crack from Liberty's left shoulder diagonally thru Liberty's head to the dentil left of star 8 (photo); others thru the rock support below the foot to the dentil at K-4 and thru the rock support and ribbon

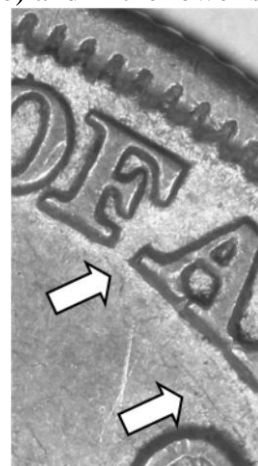
Reverse J



- Large O mintmark (photo); one example seen shows an earlier repunching of the O to the upper right (photo above right)



- Large splotchy rust lumps in the eagle's right wing (photo) and in the lower shield



- LDS: weak die crack from the eagle's right wing diagonally to the base of the (O)F (photo). Note similarities of the die crack with WB-8, 9, 10, 11, and 12. Another stronger diagonal die crack above (UN)I(TED)

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .016"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial to None	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

**1849-O
WB-13, Large O**



Obverse 10



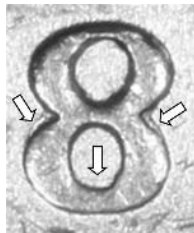
Reverse J (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1849-O WB-14, Large O

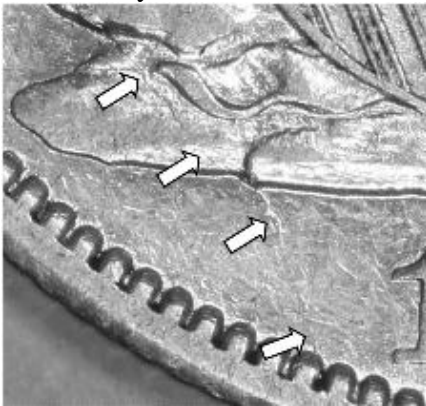
Obverse 11



- Date centered, rust filled upper triangle of the 4 (photo)



- All die states: lower loop of the 8 repunched north (photo)
- Very rusty die; many small rust lumps dull the details of Liberty, date, and stars

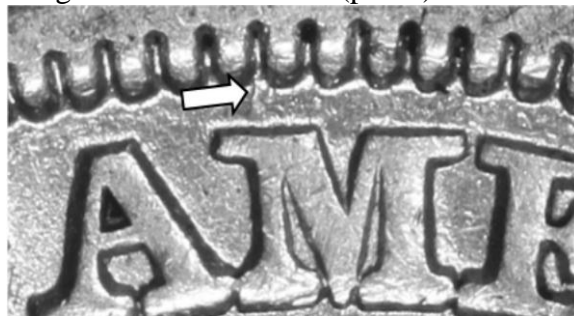


- LDS: die crack from third dentil left of the 1 into the field, thru the rock support to the rock (photo); another die crack from the back of Liberty's head towards the cap

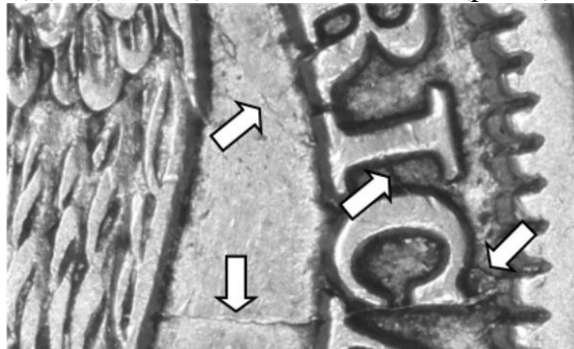
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark high, tilted to left, and tangent to the olive stem (photo)



- All die states: die line from left upright of (A)M(ERICA) to the dentil above (photo)



- LDS: heavy die cracks in and around (AMER)ICA; from rim thru right serifs of the C into the eagle's right wing and diagonally thru IC (photo); another die crack from K-8 thru the eagle's left wing into the eagle

This is the first use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .025"

141 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.201"

Rarity - 2

Drapery die state: Partial

Foot support: Full

Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: AU50

Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection

Cross reference: WB-101.

Version 4.68

1849-O
WB-14, Large O



Obverse 11



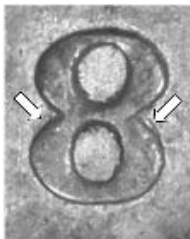
Reverse K (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1849-O WB-15, Large O

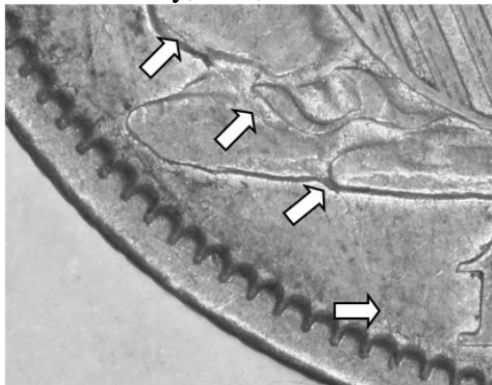
Obverse 11



- Date centered, rust filled upper triangle of the 4 (photo)



- All die states: lower loop of the 8 repunched north (photo)
- Very rusty die; many small rust lumps dull the details of Liberty, date, and stars

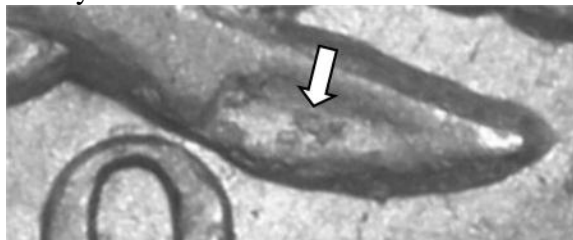


- Die crack from third dentil left of the 1 into the field, thru the rock support to the rock (photo); another die crack from the back of Liberty's head towards the cap

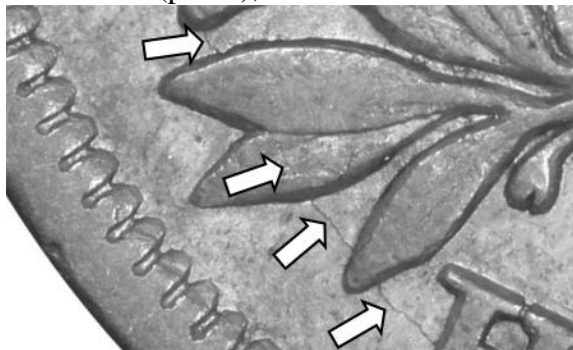
Reverse C



- Large O mintmark (photo)
- Rusty die



- Small rust lumps in the recessed area of the olive stem (photo); others on the olive leaves



- All examples seen: diagonal die crack thru the lower three olive leaves to the eagle's lower left wing tip (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the second use of this obverse die and the second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .025"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.202"	Rarity - 3
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Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: XF45	Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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1849-O
WB-15, Large O



Obverse 11



Reverse C

1849-O WB-16, Large O

Obverse 11



- Date centered, rust filled upper triangle of the 4 (photo); the lower loop of the 8 shows faint repunching also seen on previous uses of this die (WB-14 and 15)
- Very rusty die; many small rust lumps dull the details of Liberty, date, and stars

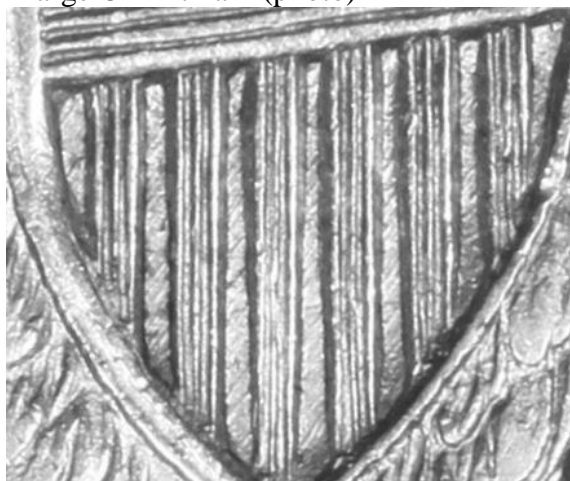


- All die states: die crack from third dentil left of the 1 into the field, thru the rock support to the rock (photo); another die crack from the back of Liberty's head towards the cap

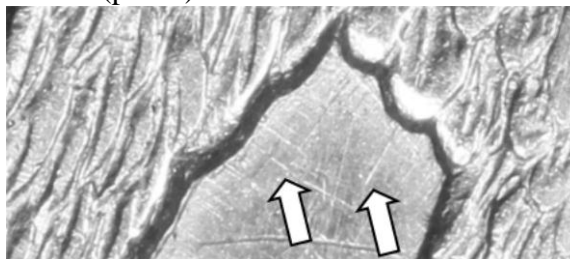
Reverse L



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Diagonal (SW to NE) die lines thru the lower shield (photo) that fade with die state



- Perpendicular die lines under the eagle's left wing (photo); other die lines beneath the olive leaves, (STAT)ES, and (AMER)IC(A)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1850-O (Reverse J).

This is the third and final use of this obverse die and the only use of this reverse die. One example seen with a 5° counter-clockwise rotation.

Date grid: M1.5, .025"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: None	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Weak; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU50		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1849-O
WB-16, Large O



Obverse 11



Reverse L

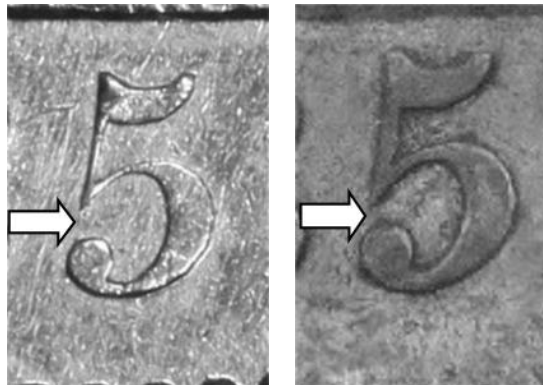
1850-O

With a high mintage of almost two and one-half million half dollars and a high number of die marriages, this date is often overlooked and under-appreciated. There is plenty in 1850-O to interest the die marriage collector such as a blundered mintmark, a doubled obverse die, die gouges, rust lumps, die cracks, and scattered die lines. Most of the obverse and reverse dies are readily distinguishable which eases attribution of this date's die marriages.

Fourteen die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
2,456,000	Requested		-	-	2 (141, 148)
	Shipped	-	16	16	
	Known	14	12	11	

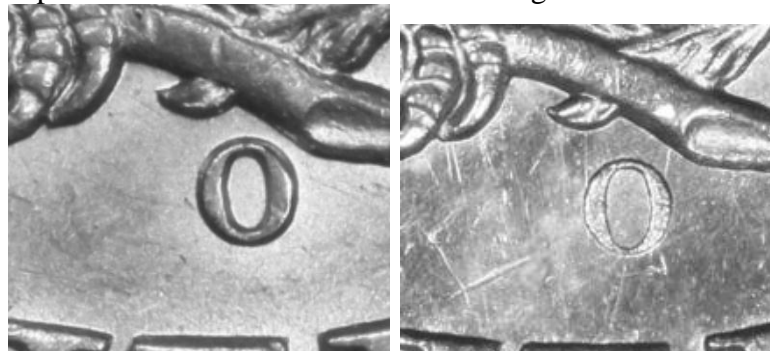
Open 5 - Closed 5. Various references discuss and/or use the open and closed 5 designations of the date style used for the 5 in 1850. As mentioned in our 1993 "Complete Guide," Randy Wiley and I believe this open and closed 5 condition is actually due to die polishing and/or the amount of force used to punch the date into the working dies. It is not a result of different date punch logotypes. The same size and type punch was most likely used to impress the 5 into all working dies in 1850. See the example photos below.



Open 5

Closed 5

Lightly/heavily impressed mintmark. 1850 has the introduction of what appears to be a different style mintmark: a very thin mintmark. In actuality, this mintmark has the same size and style as previous years but was merely impressed with less force into the working dies. See the example photos below.



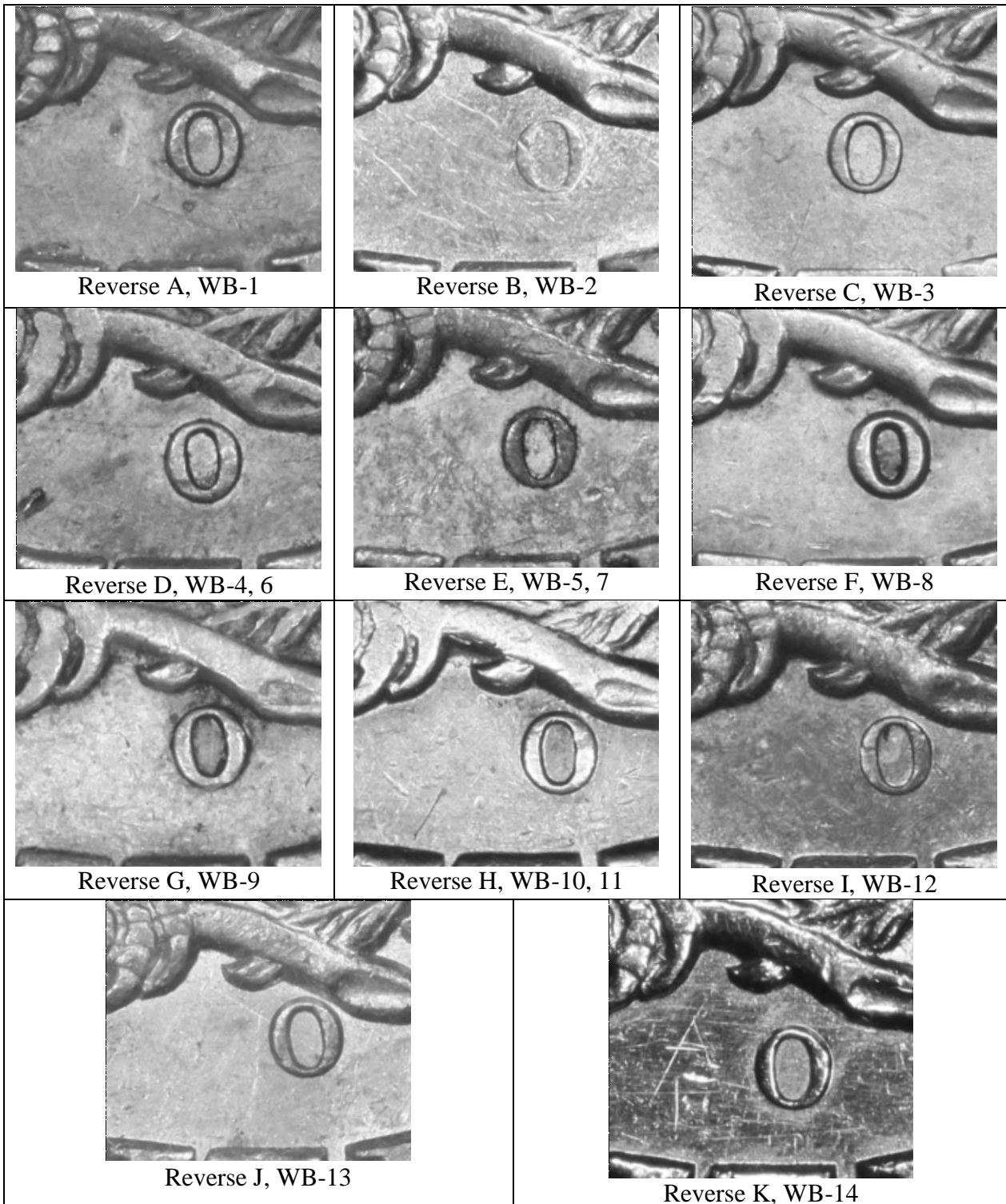
Pre-1850-O mintmark

1850-O mintmark

1850-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
L4.5, .010"	WB-2
L4.5, .016"	WB-6
L4.5, .020"	WB-14
L5 , .016"	WB-5
L5 , .019"	WB-7
L5.5, .014"	WB-13
M1 , .012"	WB-9
M1 , .021"	WB-12
M1 , .022"	WB-1
M1.5, .013"	WB-3
M1.5, .018"	WB-11
M2 , .018"	WB-10
M2.5, .014"	WB-8
M2.5, .015"	WB-4

1850-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions



1850-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Die gouge in the eagle's upper left wing	Rust lump along the base of the (S)A(TES)	Two diagonal die lines in the shield's lower left	Small lump in the upper edge of olive leaf #3	Diagonal die line to the M	Rust lump below the eagle's right wing	Two diagonal die lines to the S(TATES)	Mintmark repunched south	Die gouges along the base of the eagle's neck	Die lines under the upper olive leaf	Diagonal die lines under the eagle's left wing
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Date low	1	WB-1										
Date left slanting down to right	2		WB-2									
Rust lumps throughout Liberty	3			WB-3								
Date right	4				WB-4							
Doubled die	5				WB-6	WB-5						
Lumps in the rock support	6					WB-7						
Arching die line thru the lower shield	7						WB-8					
Two small lumps in Liberty's gown above the upper shield point	8							WB-9				
Die line below the ball of foot	9								WB-10			
Die line on the ribbon	10								WB-11	WB-12		
Date left very lightly repunched	11										WB-13	
Small lump in the drapery	12											WB-14

1850-O WB-1, Large O

Obverse 1



- Date centered (photo)
- No discernible die characteristics other than date position
- EDS: flatly struck stars

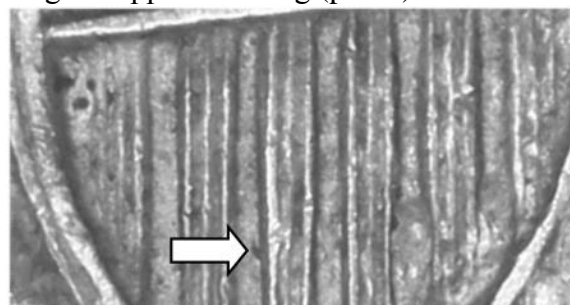
Reverse A



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- All die states: horizontal die gouge in the eagle's upper left wing (photo)



- All die states: small lump on the left side of vertical shield line C1 (photo)
- EDS: vertical die line from upper edge of olive leaf #4 towards the eagle's left wing

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .022	EDS: 141 reeds LDS: 148 reeds, No drapery	Typical diameter = 1.199"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial to None	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1850-O
WB-1, Large O



Obverse 1



Reverse A

1850-O WB-2, Large O

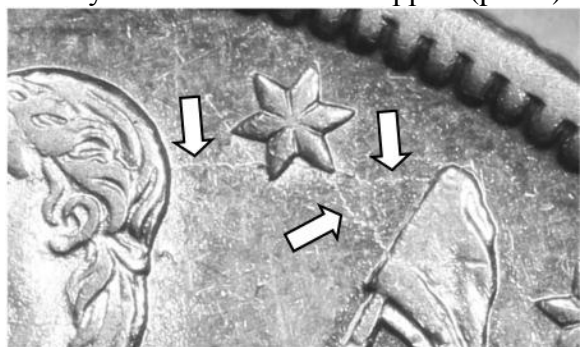
Obverse 2



- Date left slanting down to right; all die states: die crack along the base of digits 850 to dentil below the right side of the 0 (photo)



- All examples seen: die crack on the heel of Liberty's foot into the rock support (photo)

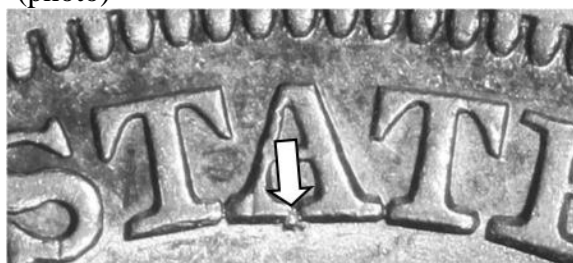


- MDS to LDS: die cracks thru head to star 8 to cap (photo) thru stars 9-13
- MDS only: weak clash lines across Liberty's lap that are polished away in later die states

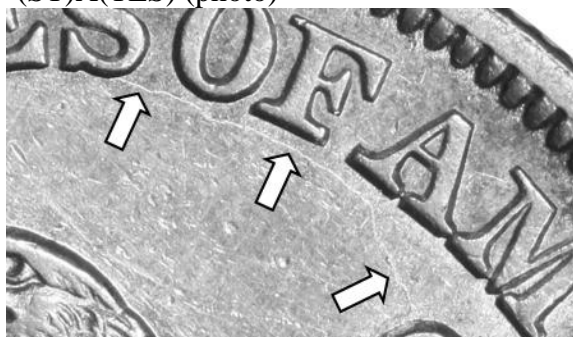
Reverse B



- Large O mintmark placed right and very weakly punched or weak from die polishing (photo)



- All die states: rust lump along the base of the (ST)A(TES) (photo)



- MDS to LDS: arching die crack from the eagle's right wing along the base of OF AM(ERICA) to the base of the (STATE)S (photo) similar to many in 1849-O
- Unfinished under the olive leaves and arrowheads
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L4.5, .010"	EDS: 148 reeds, Full drapery LDS: 141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.201"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full to none	Foot support: Full to weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU53		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1850-O
WB-2, Large O



Obverse 2



Reverse B

1850-O WB-3, Large O

Obverse 3



- Date centered and slanting down to the right (photo)



- Many rust lumps throughout Liberty; notably on her neck (photo above) and around the ribbon (photo below)

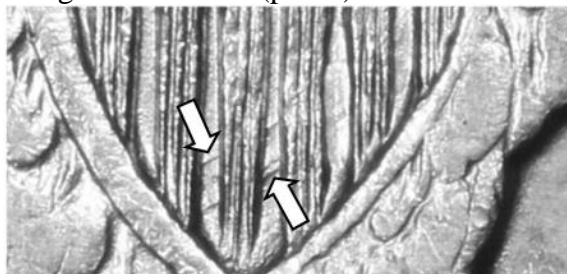


- Weak clash under Liberty's elbow
- Strong halos around most stars

Reverse C



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Two diagonal (SW to NE) die lines in the shield's lower left (photo)



- Small lump from dentil above (AME)R(ICA) (photo)
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .013"	141 weak reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 3
Draper die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS61		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1850-O
WB-3, Large O



Obverse 3



Reverse C

1850-O WB-4, Large O

Obverse 4

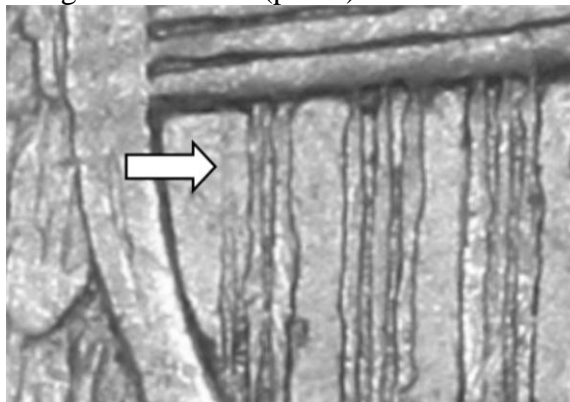


- Date right (photo)
- No discernible die characteristics other than date position

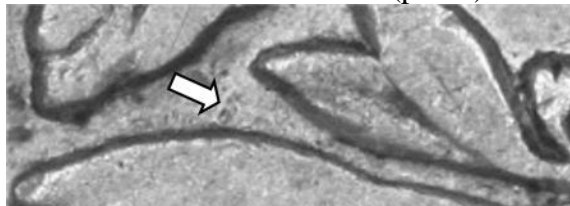
Reverse D



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Weak vertical shield line A1 (photo)



- Small lump above the upper edge of olive leaf #3 (photo)

This is the only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Itemization of detailed obverse and reverse die characteristics will have to await discovery of additional examples of this die marriage.

Date grid: M2.5, .015"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.196"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: F12		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1850-O
WB-4, Large O



Obverse 4



Reverse D

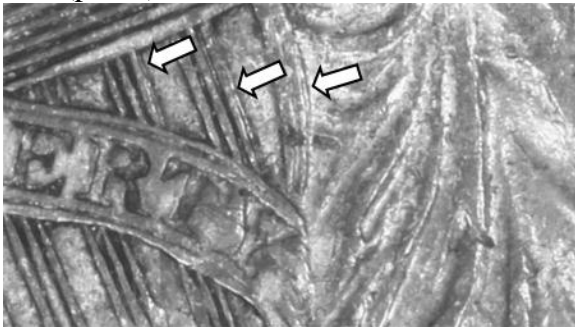
1850-O

WB-5, Large O, Doubled Die Obverse

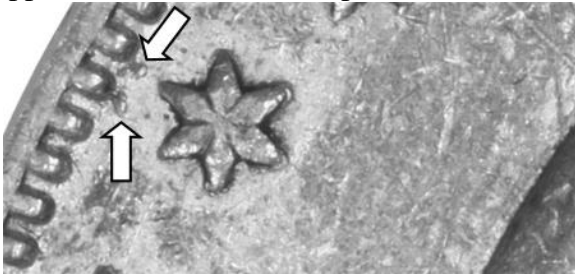
Obverse 5



- Date left with a small tine on the upper right of the 1 (photo)



- Doubled die most obvious on the right of the upper vertical shield lines (photo)



- Two small lumps along the dentils near star 4 (photo)
- EDS only: die line from the dentils to star 12
- Strong halos around most stars

Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Diagonal die line from the dentil between AM(ERICA) to the M (photo)
- Unfinished under the olive leaves
- Clash in shield's lower right

This is the first use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .016"

141 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.202"

Rarity - 3

Drapery die state: Partial

Foot support: Full

Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: PCGS XF45

Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection

Cross reference: WB-101 and Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume V, pages 471-472.

Version 4.68

1850-O

WB-5, Large O, Doubled Die Obverse



Obverse 5



Reverse E

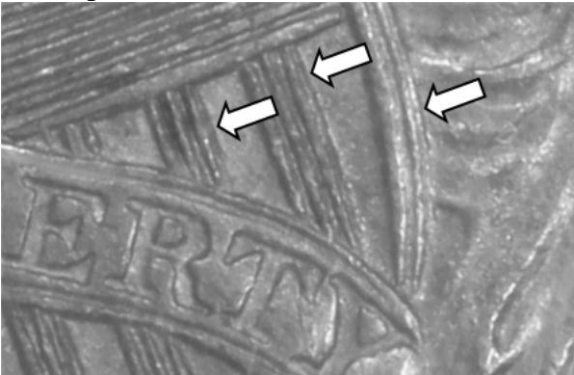
1850-O

WB-6, Large O, Doubled Die Obverse

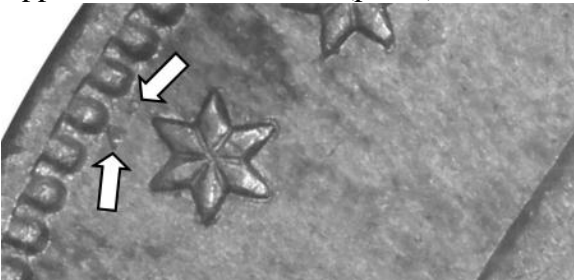
Obverse 5



- Date left with a small tine on the upper right of the 1 (photo)



- Doubled die most obvious on the right of the upper vertical shield lines (photo)

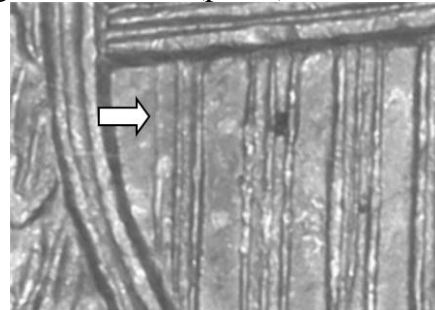


- Two small lumps along the dentils near star 4 (photo)
- Strong halos around most stars

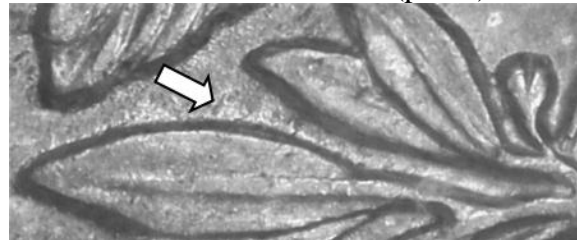
Reverse D



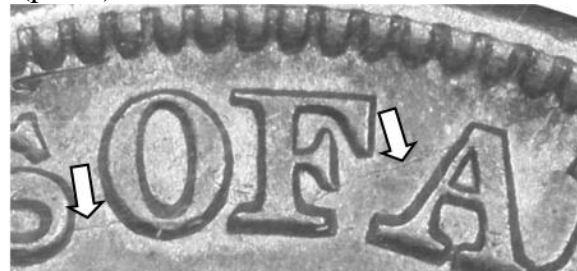
- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Weak vertical shield line A1 (photo)



- Small lump in the upper edge of olive leaf #3 (photo)



- LDS: die crack thru OF A (photo)
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L4.5, .016"	Unknown reeds	Typical diameter = Unknown	Rarity - 5
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Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: NGC MS62	Coin from the Dick Osburn Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101 and <u>Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume V</u> , pages 471-472.	Version 4.68
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1850-O

WB-6, Large O, Doubled Die Obverse



Obverse 5



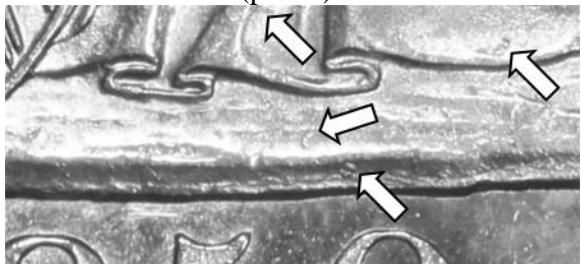
Reverse D (enhanced die cracks in photo at right)

1850-O WB-7, Large O

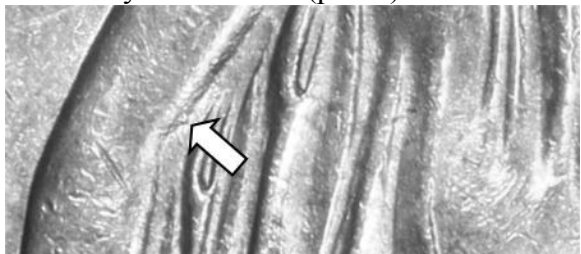
Obverse 6



- Date left and low (photo)



- Small lumps in the rock support above the date and in Liberty's gown (photo) and on the inside of Liberty's left elbow (photo)



- LDS: die crack thru stars 10-13

Reverse E



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Diagonal die line from the dentil between AM(ERICA) to the M seen on WB-5 is now much weaker and barely visible in the dentils (photo)
- Unfinished under the olive leaves
- Clash in shield's lower right
- No die cracks have been seen on this reverse die.

This is the only use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.
At least one proof-like example seen.

Date grid: L5, .019"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.199"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS62		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1850-O
WB-7, Large O



Obverse 6



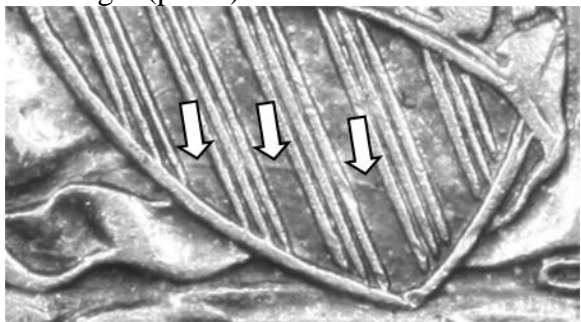
Reverse E

1850-O WB-8, Large O

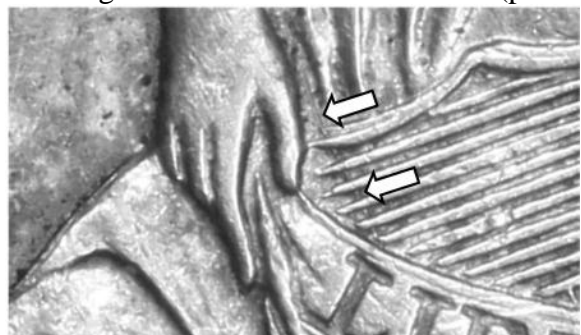
Obverse 7



- Date right (photo)



- Arching die line thru the lower shield (photo)

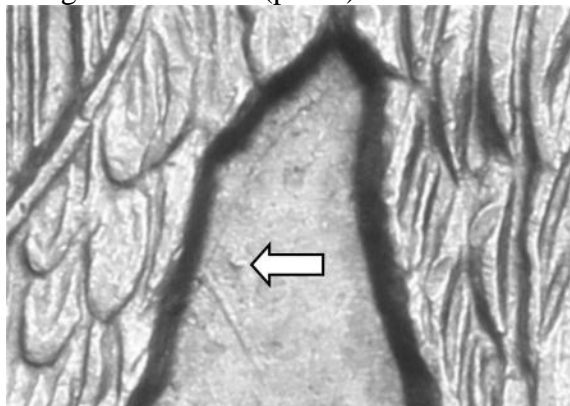


- Vertical die line along Liberty's left thumb into the horizontal shield lines (photo)
- Spotchy rust lumps on Liberty's right forearm

Reverse F



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Rust lump in the field below the eagle's right wing and die crack along the inside of the eagle's leg (photo)



- Die cracks thru much of the legend and notably above (STATE)S OF (photo)
- This reverse die is transitional with 1848-O (reverse I).

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die in 1850.

Date grid: M2.5, .014"

141 reeds

Typical diameter = 1.197"

Rarity - 6

Drapery die state: Full

Foot support: Full

Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full

Grade of coin depicted: AU50

Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection

Cross reference: WB-101.

Version 4.68

1850-O
WB-8, Large O



Obverse 7



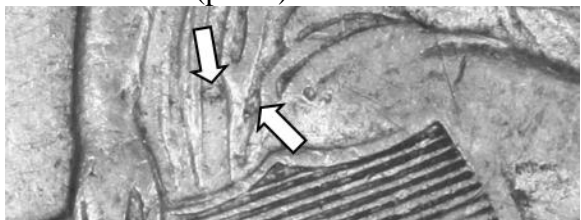
Reverse F

1850-O WB-9, Large O

Obverse 8



- Date centered (photo)

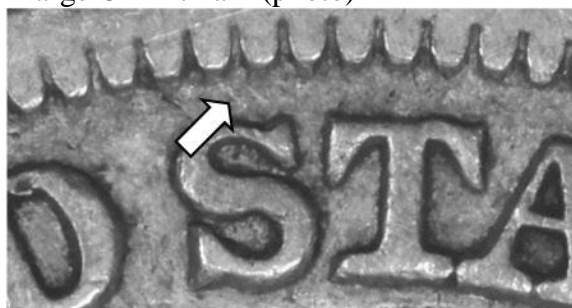


- Two small lumps in Liberty's gown above the upper shield point (photo)

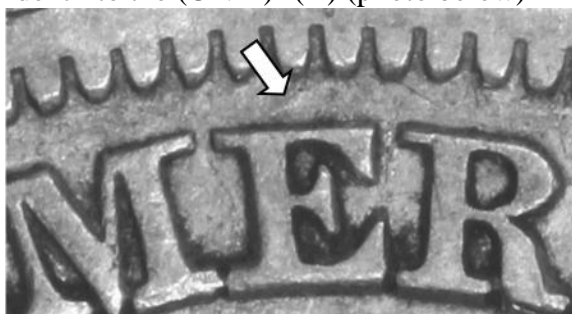
Reverse G



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Two diagonal die lines from the dentils to the S(TATES) (photo above) and another from the dentil to the (UNIT)E(D) (photo below)



This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1, .012"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 5
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: VF35		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1850-O
WB-9, Large O



Obverse 8



Reverse G

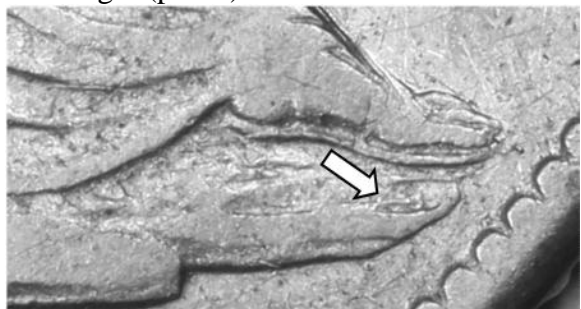
1850-O

WB-10, Large Repunched O

Obverse 9

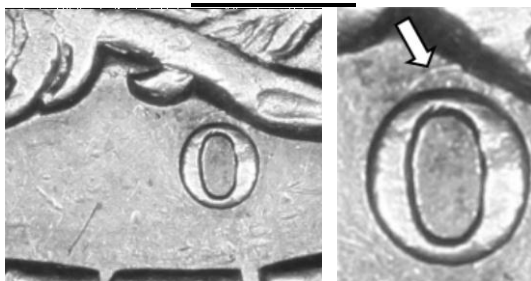


- Date right (photo)

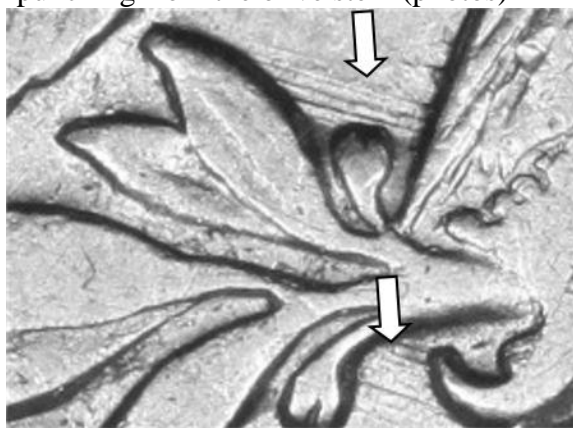


- Die line in the rock support below the ball of Liberty's foot (photo)

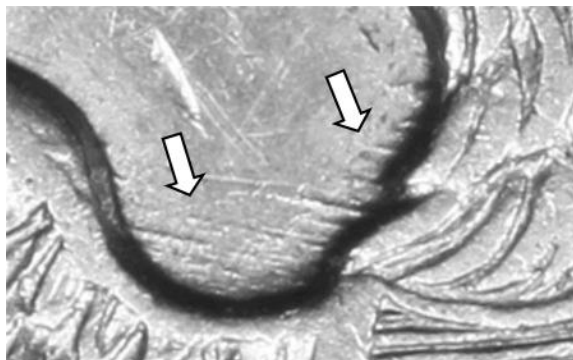
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark repunched south; first punching from the olive stem (photos)



- Many scattered die lines throughout the reverse; beneath the olive leaves (photo above), above and thru (A)ME(RICA), above the left wing, and along the eagle's neck (photo below). Others beneath the right wing and in the lower shield



This is the only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M2, .018"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.201"	Rarity - 5
Dravery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: VF25		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1850-O

WB-10, Large Repunched O



Obverse 9



Reverse H

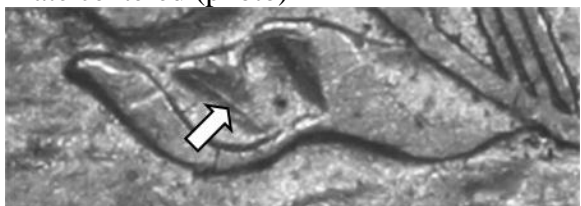
1850-O

WB-11, Large Repunched O

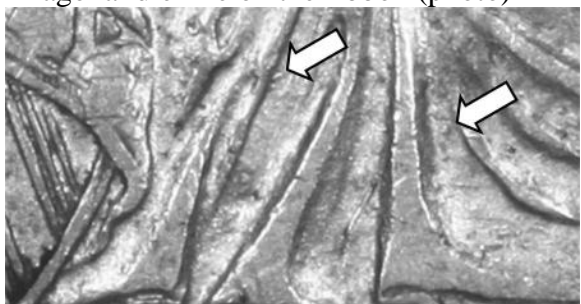
Obverse 10



- Date centered (photo)



- Diagonal die line on the ribbon (photo)

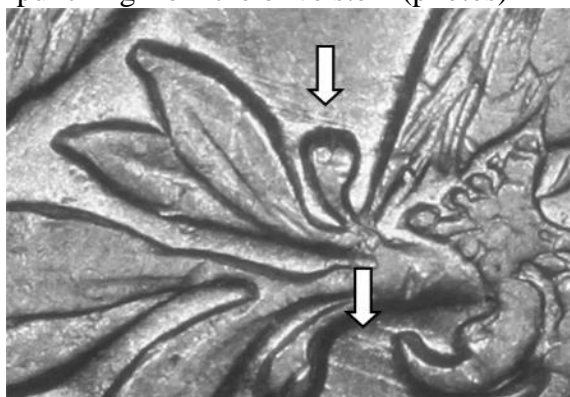


- Scattered lumps in Liberty's gown to the right of the scroll (photo)

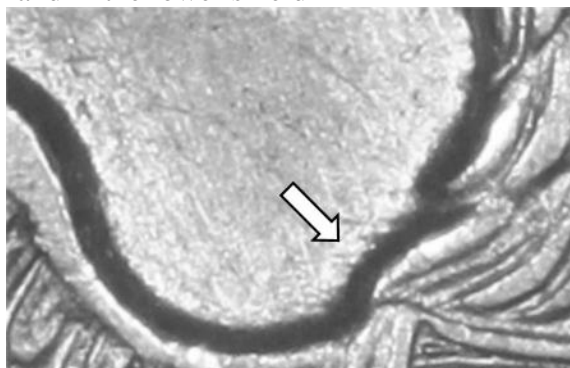
Reverse H



- Large O mintmark repunched south; first punching from the olive stem (photos)



- Many scattered die lines throughout the reverse; beneath the olive leaves (photo above), above and thru (A)ME(RICA), above the left wing, and along the eagle's neck (photo below). Others beneath the right wing and in the lower shield



This is the first use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: M1.5, .018"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.203"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: ANACS AU50		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-102.		Version 4.68	

1850-O

WB-11, Large Repunched O



Obverse 10



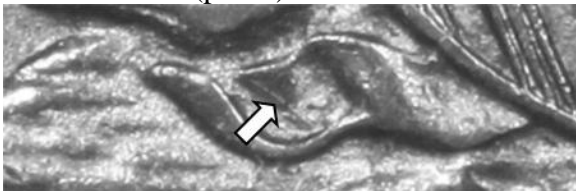
Reverse H

1850-O WB-12, Large O

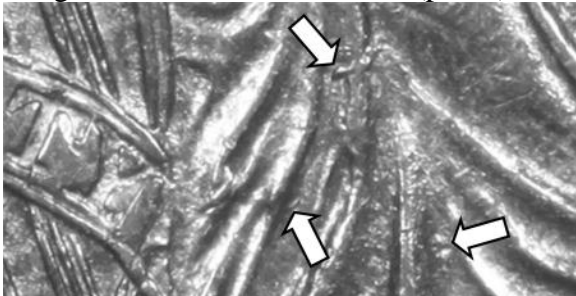
Obverse 10



- Date centered (photo)



- Diagonal die line on the ribbon (photo)

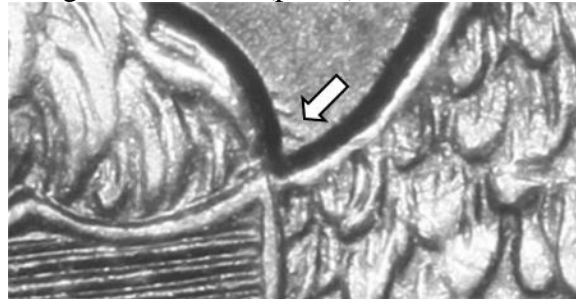


- Scattered lumps in Liberty's gown to the right of the scroll (photo)
- Die crack from lower left rock support to K-7

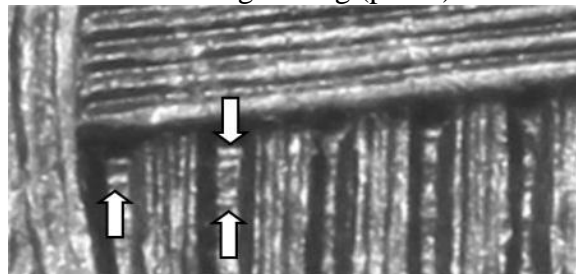
Reverse I



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Small die gouges along the base of the eagle's neck above the right wing (photo)



- Die lines along the lower edge of the lowest horizontal shield line (photo)
- Unfinished under olive leaves

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

One example seen has a collar break at K-10 (viewed from obverse). Another has die lines between the reeds.

Date grid: M1, .021"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.204"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU58		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1850-O
WB-12, Large O



Obverse 10



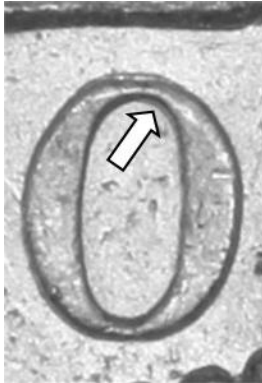
Reverse 1

1850-O WB-13, Large O

Obverse 11



- Date left very lightly repunched on the inside upper edge of the 0 (photos above and below)

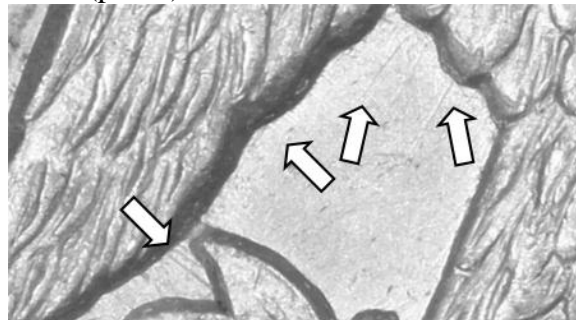


- Very heavy halo around most stars
- Unfinished under the dentils around the entire rim

Reverse J



- Large O mintmark nearly touching the olive stem (photo)



- Die lines under the upper olive leaf and along the inside of the eagle's left wing (photo) and diagonally (SW to NE) in the lower shield



- Short die line from the top of the (UNIT)E(D) (photo) and another faint die line from (ST)A(TES) to dentil above
- This reverse die is transitional with 1849-O (Reverse L).

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .014"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.199"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS60		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1850-O
WB-13, Large O



Obverse 11



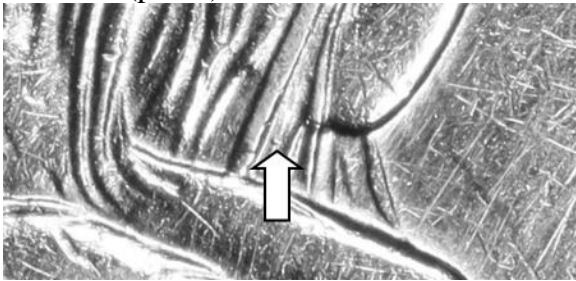
Reverse J

1850-O WB-14, Large O

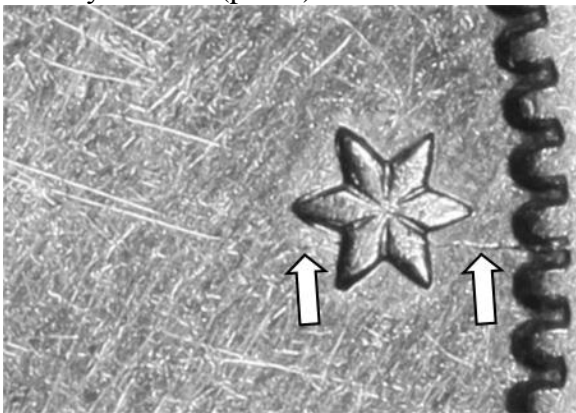
Obverse 12



- Date left (photo)



- Small lump along the pole in the drapery below Liberty's elbow (photo)

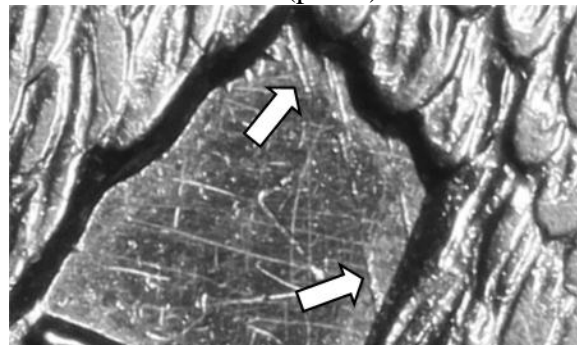


- Die crack from rim thru star 12 into field (photo); another thru star 8 into field
- Clash marks in field to right of drapery and by right hand

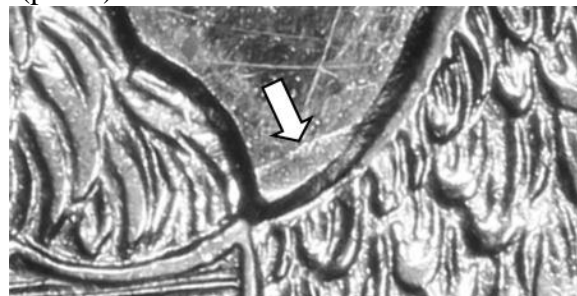
Reverse K



- Large O mintmark positioned lowest of all the 1850-O reverse dies (photo)



- Diagonal die lines under the eagle's left wing (photo)



- Horizontal die line above the eagle's right wing (photo)
- Crisscrossed die lines in the lower shield
- Unfinished under the olive leaves
- This reverse die is transitional with 1851-O (Reverse A).

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

This coin is from the Stack's Buddy Byers Sale (10/2006) and the only one seen of this die marriage.

Date grid: L4.5, .020"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.201"	Rarity - 6
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Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Partial	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
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Grade of coin depicted: AU55	Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection
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Cross reference: WB-101.	Version 4.68
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1850-O
WB-14, Large O



Obverse 12



Reverse K

1851-O

The New Orleans Branch Mint half dollar mintage in 1851 dropped to one-sixth that of each of the previous eight years. With the discovery of gold in California in 1848, gold poured into the nation's economy thereby upsetting the gold to silver market ratio. By 1851, the value of silver rose to a point where a silver coin's silver content was worth more than the face value (e.g., two silver half dollars were worth \$1.03½ in gold). Consequently, large numbers of U.S. silver coins, mainly quarters and half dollars, were pulled from circulation, hoarded, melted, and/or exported for profit. The U.S. Mints reduced their silver coinage output because it cost more than their face value to produce and, if released, they quickly disappeared from commerce; hence, this date's low half dollar mintage.

With a low mintage, only five die marriages are known. None of these have any major interesting attractions and even some of the dies have no readily identifiable die characteristics. Reliance on the date and mintmark positions for attributing 1851-O half dollars is of paramount importance.

Five die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.

Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
402,000	Requested		-	-	1 (141)
	Shipped	-	20	20*	
	Known	5	4	4	

* = An additional eleven reverse dies were held over from 1850 totaling 31 reverse dies available for use in 1851. Few of these reverse dies were utilized; seven were cancelled and twenty-four were carried over for use in 1852.

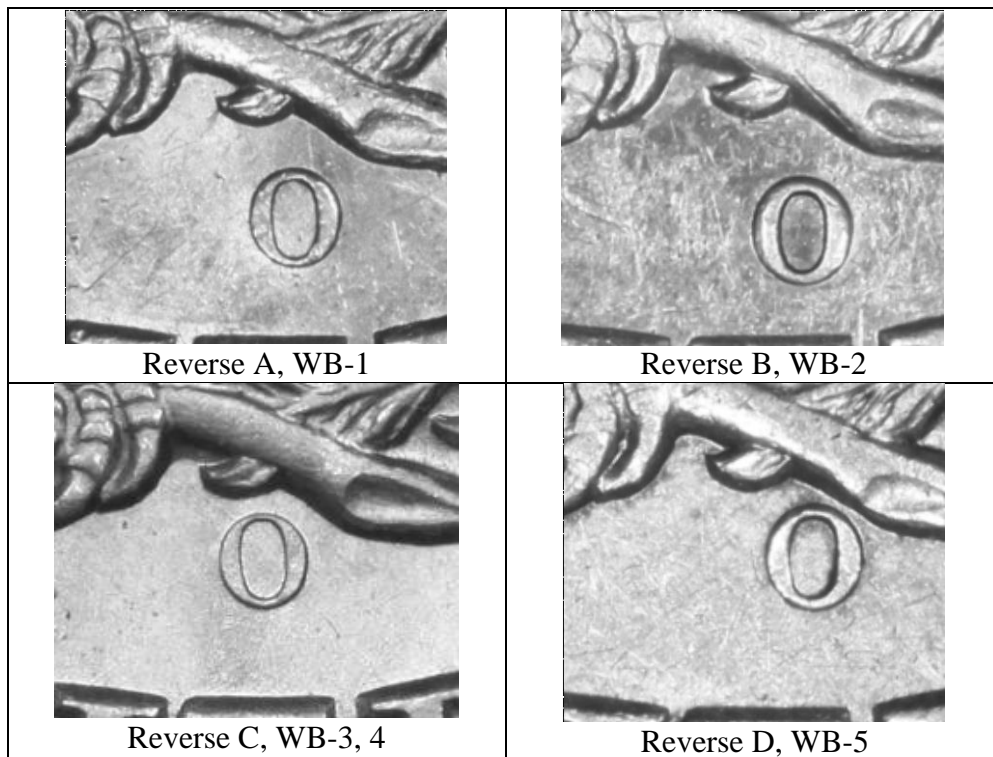
Another die marriage known? There is a remote possibility that another 1851-O die marriage, not listed herein, may exist. At a major coin show in 2009, I scrutinized a high grade, proof-like, encapsulated 1851-O that didn't appear to exactly match the characteristics of the known dies. I believe that, because most of the diagnostics were close except for the obverse die gouge, this coin was a die state of the WB-2 that I have not seen before. I am listing those diagnostics here in the hope that others will be on the lookout for examples from these dies:

- Obverse: **Raised shallow oblong die gouge in the lower right obverse shield below the (LIBER)TY**, partial drapery and a clash below Liberty's elbow, weak foot support, and date position approximately L4, .023".
- Reverse: Mintmark low, die line on the right upright of the (A)M(ERICA) and another thru the lower (AM)E(RICA), unfinished below the olive leaves, and a horizontal die line thru (STATE)S OF.

1851-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
L4 , .008"	WB-4
L4 , .025"	WB-2
L4.5, .024"	WB-1
L5 , .016"	WB-5
L5 , .019"	WB-3

1851-O Half Dollar Mintmark Positions



1851-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys		Perpendicular die lines in the lower shield	Die line on the right upright of the (A)M(ERICA) and thru the lower (A)M(E)R(I)C(A)	Mintmark high and to the left	Many jumbled die lines in the reverse shield
		A	B	C	D
Date low	1	WB-1	WB-2		
Many lumps on Liberty and along the base of the rock support	2			WB-3	
Die crack from dentil thru the right side of star 5	3			WB-4	
No major discernible die diagnostics	4				WB-5

1851-O WB-1, Large O

Obverse 1

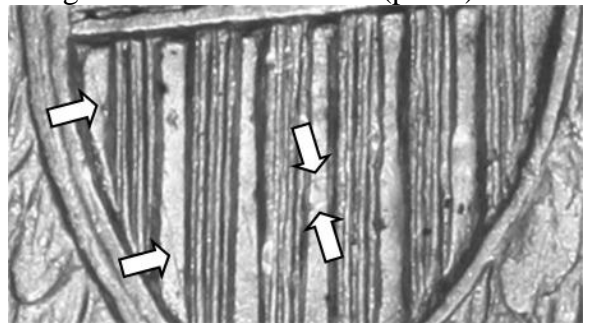


- Date low (photo)
- No major discernible die diagnostics

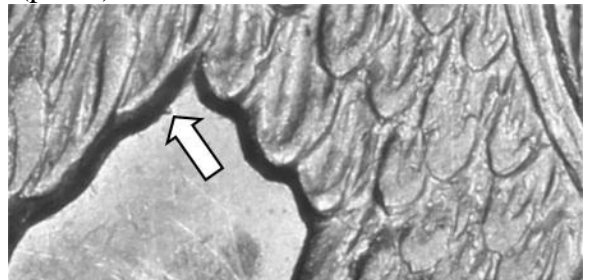
Reverse A



- Large O mintmark centered (photo)



- Perpendicular die lines in the lower shield (photo)



- Small tine from the underside of the eagle's left wing (photo)
- Unfinished under olive leaves
- This reverse die is transitional with 1850-O (Reverse K).

This is the first use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L4.5, .024"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.200"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU55		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1851-O
WB-1, Large O



Obverse 1



Reverse A

1851-O WB-2, Large O

Obverse 1

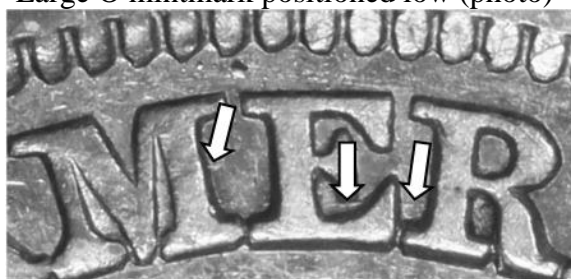


- Date low (photo) weak at base of digits. The date was most likely punched obliquely into this die resulting in the top of the digits being deeper in the die than the bottom of the digits.
- No major discernible die diagnostics

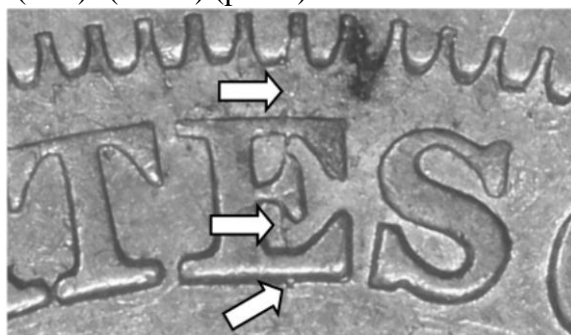
Reverse B



- Large O mintmark positioned low (photo)



- Die line on the right upright of the (A)M(ERICA) and thru the lower (AM)E(RICA) (photo)



- LDS: die crack from dentil thru center of (STAT)E(S) (photo)

This is the second and final use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Per Randy Wiley, lot 586 of the Superior 1975 ANA Sale was listed as a Branch Mint Proof by Walter Breen. The plate in that Sale appears to be this die marriage.

Date grid: L4, .025"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.198"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Weak	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1851-O
WB-2, Large O



Obverse 1



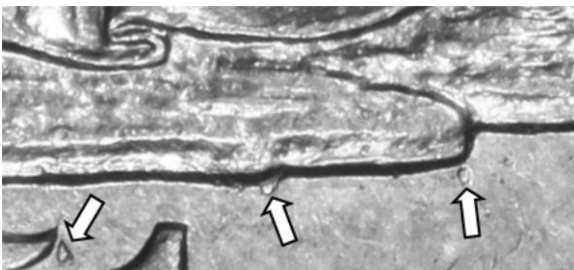
Reverse B

1851-O WB-3, Large O

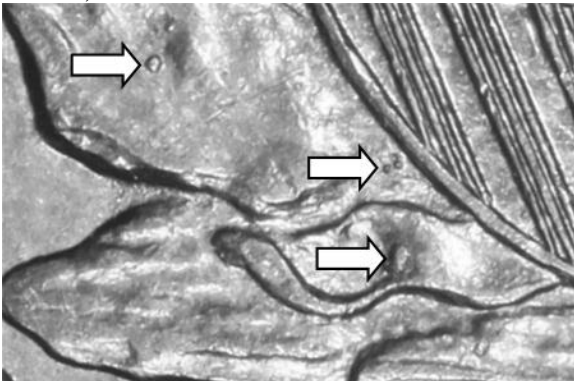
Obverse 2



- Date left (photo); note lump to the upper right of the 5



- Many lumps on Liberty and in the field along the base of the rock support (photo above); others around the rock and ribbon (photo below)



Reverse C



- Large O mintmark high and to the left (photo)
- No major discernible die diagnostics
- Heavily unfinished under the olive leaves and arrowheads

This is the only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .019"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.200"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: AU58		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1851-O
WB-3, Large O



Obverse 2



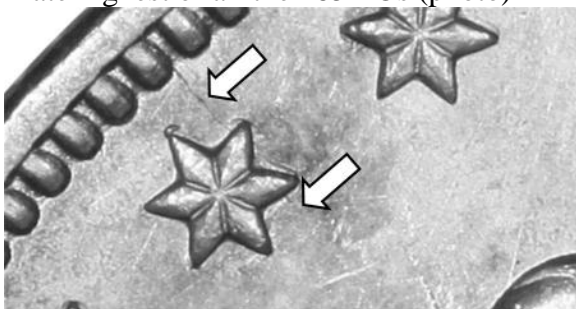
Reverse C

1851-O WB-4, Large O

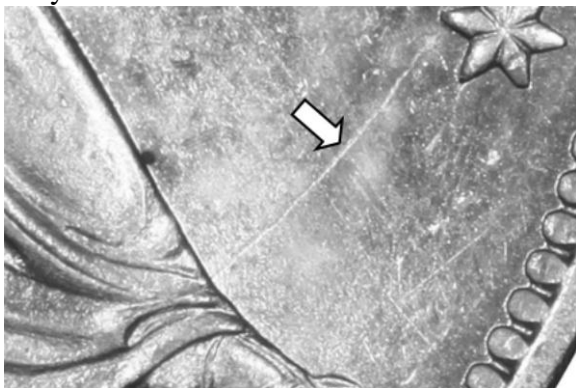
Obverse 3



- Date highest of all the 1851-Os (photo)



- All die states seen: die crack from dentil through the right side of star 5 (photo); this die crack very weak on EDS coins.



- LDS: die crack from the instep of Liberty's right foot into the field to the inner point of star 13 (photo)

Reverse C



- Large O mintmark high and to the left (photo)
- No major discernible die diagnostics
- Heavily unfinished under the olive leaves and arrowheads
- LDS only: clash in shield's lower right
- LDS: weak radial die crack from between two dentils through the right edge of (STAT)E(S) to the top of the eagle's head above the eye

This is the only use of this obverse die and second and final use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L4, .008"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.201"	Rarity - 3
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS62		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1851-O
WB-4, Large O



Obverse 3



Reverse C

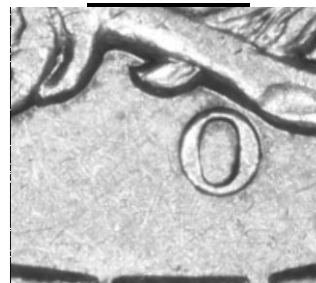
1851-O WB-5, Large O

Obverse 4

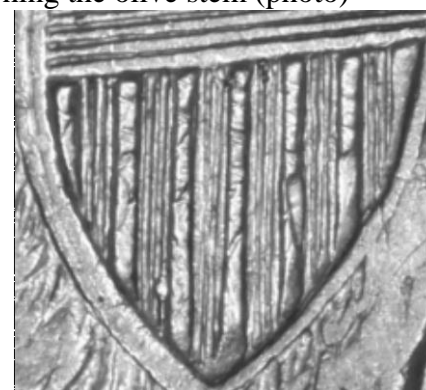


- Date left (photo)
- No major discernible die diagnostics

Reverse D



- Large O mintmark high and right nearly touching the olive stem (photo)



- Many jumbled die lines in the reverse shield (photo)
- Clash in the shield's lower right

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5, .016"	141 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.199"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: XF40		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1851-O
WB-5, Large O



Obverse 4



Reverse D

1852-O

With continuing national economic difficulties (see the 1851-O introductory section) into 1852, the New Orleans Branch Mint further reduced the number of half dollars minted to less than 150,000. This currency crisis was not to ease until the implementation of the Law of 1853 signed by the President on February 21, 1853.

Excluding some individually rare die marriages and the non-collectible 1853-O no arrows and rays, 1852-O is the scarcest date of the early New Orleans Mint half dollars. With a low mintage and only two die marriages, this date is often appreciated for this status.

Two die marriages are known as depicted in the tables below.



Mintage	Number of Dies	Number of Die Marriages	Obverse Dies	Reverse Dies	Reed Counts Known
144,000	Requested		-	-	1 (143)
	Shipped	-	12	0*	
	Known	2	2	2*	

* = No half dollar reverse dies were shipped to the New Orleans Branch Mint in 1852. Twenty-four reverse dies were reserved from 1851 for use in 1852. Interestingly, these same dies were not cancelled in 1852 and were also reserved for use in 1853.

The so-called “1852-O proofs.” I would be remiss if I did not address the three 1852-O proof half dollars listed by Walter Breen; one or more of these coins appears infrequently in major auctions. The elevated status of these coins is no doubt due to what Breen says is the “drastically repolished dies” and the consequent proof-like surfaces of the coins. I question the assignment of a proof status to these coins; consider this argument. The dies used to strike these coins also struck business strike half dollars (WB-2 in this reference). After studying the die states of multiple examples of this die marriage, business strikes were minted before these “proofs.” After minting business strike coins, the dies were then polished (as evidenced by the weak support under Liberty’s foot seen on the Breen plate coin) and used to strike the so-called proofs. I contend that the dies were polished as part of the normal maintenance of these dies (resulting in the polished surfaces) and the dies were continually used to mint business strikes. The so-called proofs are products of these dies after the die maintenance, were meant for commerce, and survived along with other “hoarded” coins of this time period. Otherwise, there are no major 1852 historical occasions or events suitable for commemoration with proof coins or, more importantly, are there any plausible reasons for the proof coins to be struck from “used” dies when twenty-four reverse dies, mostly unused, were available.

1852-O date grid quick reference table

Obverse die date grid	Die Marriage
L3.5, .020"	WB-2
L5.5, .018"	WB-1

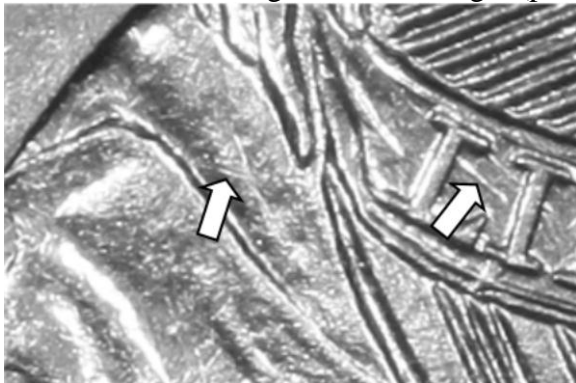
<p>1852-O Obverse and Reverse die identification keys</p>	<p>Mintmark high (when compared with reverse B); faint die lines in and thru the legend</p>	<p>Mintmark low (when compared with reverse A); long die line in the field from the eagle's right leg to the underside of the right wing</p>
	A	B
		
Date left	1	WB-1
Date far left	2	WB-2

1852-O WB-1, Large O

Obverse 1



- Date left and slanting down to the right (photo)

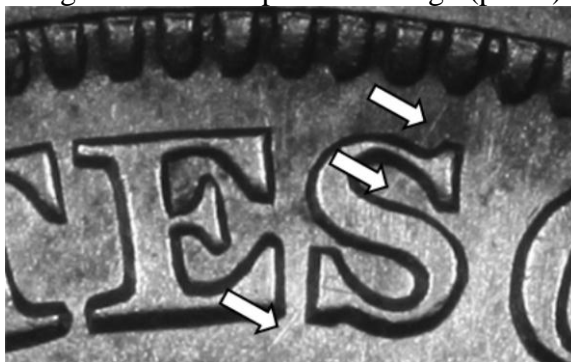


- Scattered very faint die lines thru the rock, scroll, and shield below Liberty's left hand (photo); these will be visible only on high grade coins.

Reverse A



- Large O mintmark positioned high (photo)



- Weak die line diagonally (SW to NE) thru the (STATE)S (photo above); others thru most of the legend including those thru (AME)RIC(A) (photo below)



- Unfinished under the olive leaves
- Clash in shield's lower left and right

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.

Date grid: L5.5, .018"	143 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.199"	Rarity - 4
Drapery die state: Partial	Foot support: Partial to none	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: MS62		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1852-O
WB-1, Large O



Obverse 1



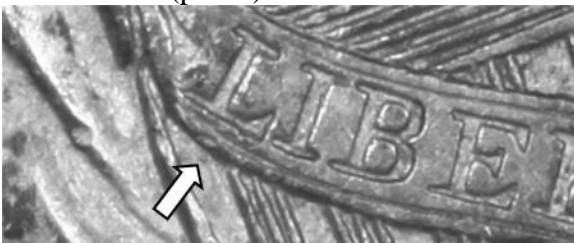
Reverse A

1852-O WB-2, Large O

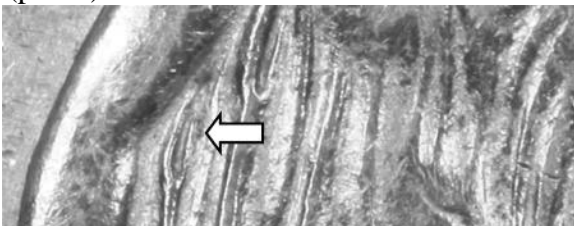
Obverse 2



- Date far left (photo)



- Tiny lump in the shield below L(IBERTY) (photo)

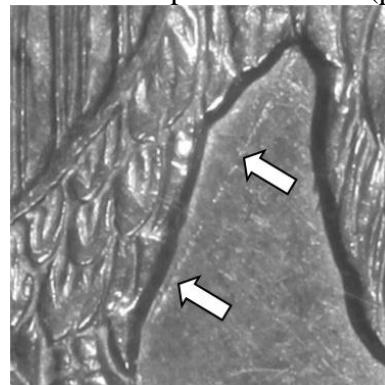


- Small lump in Liberty's gown to the right of the inside of Liberty's elbow (photo)

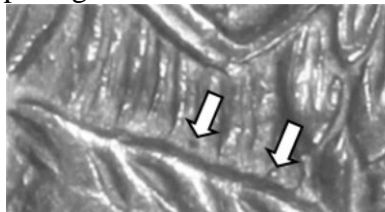
Reverse B



- Large O mintmark positioned low (photo)



- Die line from the eagle's right leg to the underside of the right wing (photo), another in the upper right corner of the lower shield



- Small lumps on the upper edge of the upper arrow feathers (photo); others in the middle of the left wing
- This reverse die is transitional with 1853-O and used on the ultra-rare 1853-O no arrows and rays half dollar (WB-NC-1).

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die in 1852.

These dies were used to produce business strike half dollars and the so-called 1852-O proof half dollars. See this date's introductory text for more information.

Date grid: L3.5, .020"	143 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.203"	Rarity - 4
Draper die state: Partial	Foot support: Partial	Dentils: Obverse: - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS AU55		Coin from the Bill Bugert Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version 4.68	

1852-O
WB-2, Large O



Obverse 2



Reverse B

1853-O No Arrows or Rays

The 1853-O No Arrows and Rays half dollar is one of the rarest of all United States issues. Only three are known; they appear on the market infrequently, and are not available in any quantity to even the most advanced collections.

How did this rarity come to be? As mentioned in the introduction, by early 1853 there was virtually no coinage in circulation (3-cent silver pieces and heavily worn foreign and U.S. coins were the exception). The bullion value of silver coinage exceeded the face value facilitating the removal of all silver coinage from commerce, often melted and exported for profit. As fast as the mint coined and released silver coins, they were removed from circulation. With little to offer for change, retail businesses were desperate. The Mint reacted by drastically reducing the number of silver coins minted (the government was losing money minting coins!) and, after two years of delay, the Mint Act of February 21, 1853 was passed. Among other provisions and effective with amendments on April 1, 1853, this Act reduced the weight but not the silver fineness of coinage such that it discouraged melting; for the half dollar, the weight was reduced from 206.25 to 192 grains. To announce this change, the coinage with the new reduced weight was marked with out-facing arrows at the date and, for the half dollar reverse, rays of glory encircling the eagle. For three months from January 1st thru March 31st, half dollars of the old higher weight (without arrows at the date and without reverse rays around the eagle) could have been legally minted.

As was customary during this time period, dies for the approaching year were shipped from Philadelphia in the final months of the preceding year so that the Branch Mint could prepare them for the new year's coinage. Although I have been unable to find the die shipment record for the 1853 half dollar dies, it is generally believed that six 1853 dated obverse dies without the arrows were on hand at the New Orleans Branch Mint. One of these dies was mated with a left-over 1852-O reverse die to produce this rarity.

Recent research⁶ details a January 2, 1853 New Orleans newspaper report of "...silver half dollar laid on our table for examination, as the product of the massive stamping machinery on the first day of the year, 1853..." From this, at least one and possibly more 1853-O No Arrows and Rays half dollar were minted on January 1st, 1853. Unfortunately, no records are currently known detailing quantities minted.

What happened to these 1853-O NA half dollars? Again unfortunately, we will never know for sure. Various theories suggest abound. One such theory states they were saved as presentation pieces; this is unlikely since all three known coins are heavily worn. More likely, an unknown number of these coins were released into circulation early in 1853. Remember at that time, all coinage of the old weights was being removed from circulation, melted, and exported for profit. Most of these coins would fall victim to melting but others, including or only these three, escaped this fate. To me, several alternatives for the survival of these three coins are likely.

1. In the late 1850's and early 1860's, U.S. coinage was heavily exported to Canada, the West Indies, and Latin America. In 1858, Canada transitioned to a dollar-like decimal coinage system but had inadequate coinage to meet demand. U.S. coins were readily available and utilized until the Canadian Mints sufficed. South of the border, civil unrest eased, circulating coinage was needed, and U.S. coinage was used as local currency. Eventually in late 1877, at least \$22M worth of silver coinage, including half dollars, which disappeared from U.S. circulation, re-appeared from Canada, Central

⁶ Kelly, Richard and Nancy Oliver. "Curious origin for 1853-O Without Arrows and Rays halves." Coin World March 28, 2011, p. 76-77.

America, and South America. Long thought melted for bullion, these were returned when it was profitable to do so. One or more of these coins could have circulated in these regions and ultimately returned when U.S. economic conditions permitted.

2. The three remaining coins escaped melting in the 1850's, circulated until 1861 when the American Civil War again forced all coinage out of circulation, and returned to circulation when economic conditions returned to normalcy in the 1870's. Eventually, they would have been plucked out of circulation or held aside randomly until recognized for their value.

3. The three remaining coins could have been used as pocket pieces and saved until recognized for their value.

The 1853-O No Arrows and Rays half dollar rarity discovered. The existence of this half dollar was not generally known to collectors until J. W. Haseltine first announced it with the highest grade coin (currently the PCGS VF35) prior to 1881. With many succeeding owners, its most recent appearance was in the George "Buddy" Byers Collection auctioned by Stack's in October, 2006.

The second and lowest grade coin (currently the PCGS G6) appeared in the Colin E. King Collection auctioned by Chapman in 1892. It currently resides in an NGC Registry set.

The third coin (raw, VG) was used to pay a Chicago, IL Cottage Grove Avenue trolley fare about 1909. According to accounts in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*⁷, "The [trolley] conductor turned the half dollar in at the barn [building housing the trolleys]. The barn man replaced it by another and sold it to Stevens & Co., of Chicago, for \$5, who sold it to Chas. Wilcox, of Chicago, for \$100. Wilcox in turn sold it to De Witt Smith, of Lee, Mass., for \$500. Smith later refused to sell it at \$2500. It is now in the exhibit of H. O. Granberg, a wealthy mine owner of Oshkosh, Wisc.,...." Granberg displayed this coin at the 1911 American Numismatic Association Convention in Chicago. Later this exact coin graced the collections of Waldo Newcomer, Col E.H.R. Green, and Louis Eliasberg.

Studying the highest grade surviving coin, PCGS VF35. In February 2011 when an occasion arrived to study and photograph the finest known 1853-O NA, I jumped at the opportunity knowing that since the other two known coins were low grade (VG and G), the diagnostics probably would not be visible and the best chance to really study one of these rarities would have to be the VF35 example. So I set out to determine the die diagnostics for the obverse and reverse dies. The obverse die had a few easily identifiable die diagnostics detailed herein and I always hoped the reverse die would be the same as one of the 1852-O reverse dies. My hunch was rewarded when I determined the **1853-O No Arrows and Rays half dollar uses one of the dies from 1852-O (i.e., reverse B (WB-2)).**

This finding makes complete sense. Randy Wiley and I in our 1993 reference book speculated that the reverse die used with this rarity would be an 1852-O left over die without the rays "A no arrows head die was probably mated with an 1852 no rays tail die to produce an unknown number of 1853-O no arrows and rays coins." In fact, Mint records show that no 1852-O reverse dies were defaced in 1852 and that 24 reverse dies were on hand from 1851 and 1852 for use in 1853. These 24 dies would all have had no rays on the reverse. Fortuitously, the die chosen to be use with the 1853 no arrows obverse die was one of the exact dies also used in 1852.

⁷ Ibid.

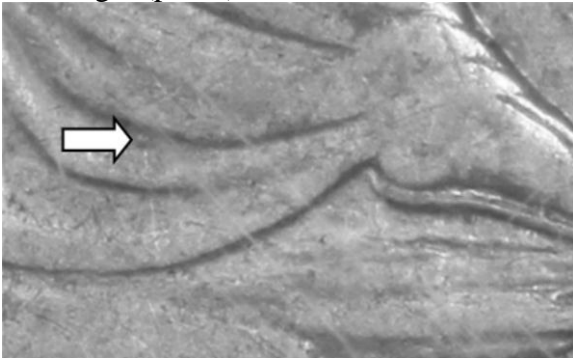
1853-O

WB-NC-1, No Arrows and Rays, Large O

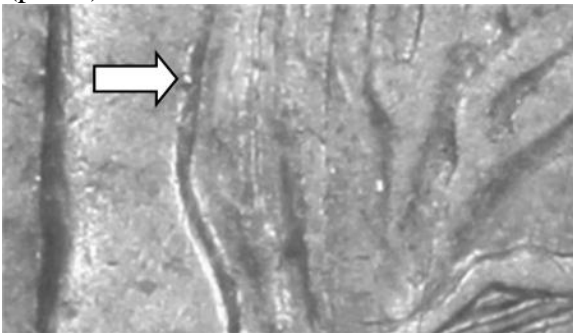
Obverse 1



- Date right (photo)



- Small lump in Liberty's skirt behind the heel (photo)

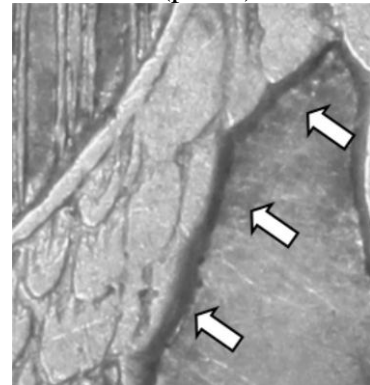


- Small lump on Liberty's left wrist (photo); others in the shield below the L(IBERTY) and in the drapery below Liberty's elbow

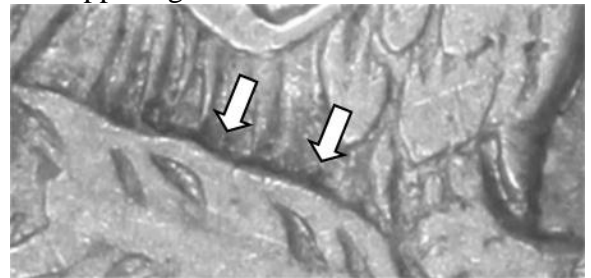
Reverse A



- Large O mintmark (photo)



- Die line from the eagle's right leg to the underside of the right wing (photo), another in the upper right corner of the lower shield



- Small lumps on the upper edge of the upper arrow feathers (photo); others in the middle of the left wing
- This reverse die is transitional with 1852-O (reverse B).

This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die in 1853.

Date grid: M2.5, .011"	Unknown reeds	Typical diameter = Unknown	Rarity - 8; 3 known
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse: - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: PCGS VF35		Coin from the Current Owner's Collection	
Cross reference: WB-Uncollectible.		Version 4.68	

Note: NC = Non-collectible

1853-O

WB-NC-1, No Arrows and Rays, Large O



Obverse 1



Reverse A

There are currently three known examples with generally accepted pedigree chains as listed below.

- 1). **PCGS VF35**, finest known and, reportedly, the first discovered. (201.0 grains)
 - J. W. Haseltine circa 1881
 - J. Colvin Randall Collection (W. Elliot Woodward's 77th Sale, 1885, lot 421)
 - Harold P. Newlin (acting as T. Harrison Garrett's agent in the Randall Sale)
 - T. Harrison Garrett
 - John Work Garrett; The Johns Hopkins University; The Garrett Collection, Part I (Bowers and Ruddy, November 28-29, 1979, lot 339)
 - David Queller, The Queller Family Collection (Stack's, October 15-16, 2002, lot 530)
 - Jim Gray's North Carolina Collection (Bowers and Merena, February 2004, lot 2332)
 - George "Buddy" Byers Collection, (Stack's, October 17, 2006, lot 1160)
 - Prominent numismatist

- 2). **Very Good** (202.3 grains)
 - H. O. Granberg - exhibited at the 1911 ANA Convention
 - William H. Woodin
 - Waldo C. Newcomer
 - B. Max Mehl
 - Colonel E.H.R. Green
 - Charles M. Williams Collection "Menjou Collection" (Numismatic Gallery, Abe Kosoff and Abner Kreisberg, June 1950, lot 1984)
 - Louis E. Eliasberg, Sr. Collection (Bowers and Merena/Stack's, April 1997, lot 1955)
 - Current owner

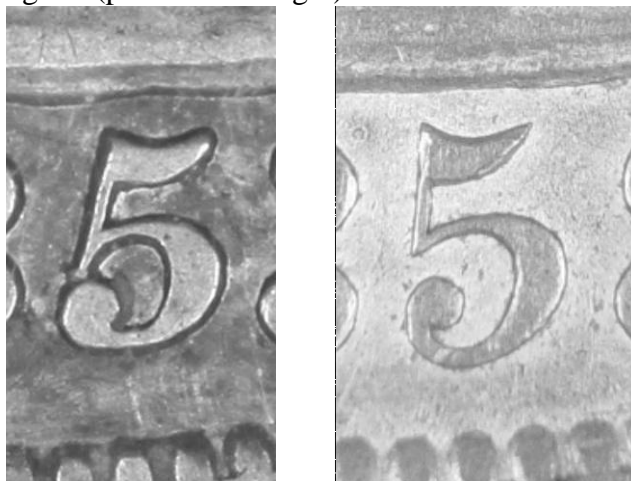
- 3). **PCGS G6** (199.6 grains)
 - Colin E. King Collection (Chapman Sale, April 5, 1892, lot 854)
 - Col. E.H.R. Green
 - Anderson-Dupont Collection (Stack's, 1954)
 - C. A. Cass "Empire Collection" (Stack's, December 1957)
 - A.M. and Paul Kagin, Hollinbeck Coin Co.
 - R. E. Cox, Jr. Sale (Stack's, April 1962 lot 1928)
 - E. Yale Clarke Sale (Stack's, October 1975)
 - Julian Leidman
 - Roy Ash
 - Leon Goodman
 - Matthew Bryan Sale (NASCA, November 2, 1977, lot 742)
 - Julian Leidman
 - Jules Reiver
 - Julian Leidman
 - Jonathan Kern
 - Charles Barasch
 - A New England Collection
 - Charles Barasch
 - Julian Leidman
 - Kenneth Goldman

- South Florida Rare Coins
- NGC Registry Set owner - SD Specialist.

Methods of determining genuineness of an 1853-O No Arrows and Rays half dollar. Various reliable and easily implemented, non-destructive methods are available to readily authenticate an 1853-O No Arrows and Rays half dollar. I suggest the reader use all four techniques below to pre-qualify a suspected coin and then submit the coin to an authentication and grading service if it passes all the tests.

1. **Planchet weight.** The planchet weight of the genuine half dollar, even of a worn coin, will be at or slightly below the old weight standard of 206.25 grains. Half dollars minted after this issue will have 192 or less grains. For example, note the weight of the G6 genuine coin, 199.6 grains, which is well above the new weight standard.

2. **Style of the 5.** Alterations to 1853-O from 1858-O half dollars are common. These are easy to dismiss as altered. On the genuine 1853-O, the 5 in the date is slanted to the right (photo below left) while the 1858-O has an upright 5 (photo below right).



(1853-O NA half dollar 1858-O half dollar)

3. **Reed count.** 1853-O No Arrows and Rays half dollars will have a reed count of either 141 or 143 reeds. Other dates may differ such as the 1858-O which has 140 reeds.

4. **Removal of arrow and rays.** Some alterations of a genuine 1853-O Arrows and Rays half dollar exist with the arrows and rays removed. These alterations are obvious on all examples I've seen but in any case, the weight should be checked and verified against the correct weight standard.

The 2010 Half Dollar Summit



In December 2011 for the second Half Dollar Summit, Liberty Seated half dollar enthusiasts and Liberty Seated Collectors Club members (left to right in the photo above) Randy Wiley, John Murison, Bill Bugert, and Dick Osburn gathered at the Bugert home in Gettysburg, PA for four days of friendship, coin camaraderie, marathon coin research sessions, and lots of food and drink. Brian Cushing made a brief appearance from Northern Virginia. The primary purpose of this summit was to gather large collections of early New Orleans half dollars for study in preparation for my work on this book.

Nearly 800 half dollars were studied at the summit as well as a large number of other coins from the series. Everyone had a great time and a surprise snow storm curtailed the summit early.

Resources

This listing is not all inclusive of references used for this Register. Rather, it is meant to provide the Liberty Seated Half Dollar beginning or advanced collector with a list of useful references to be used while collecting this series.

Beistle, Martin Luther. A Register of Half Dollar Die Varieties and Sub-Varieties. Shippensburg, PA: The Beistle Company, 1929.

Breen, Walter. Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of US and Colonial Coins. F.C.I Press, Inc. and Doubleday, 1988.

Breen Walter. Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins. New York: F.C.I. Press, Inc., 1977.

Bugert, Bill. A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume I, San Francisco Branch Mint. Gettysburg, PA: Self-published, 2009.

Bugert, Bill. A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume II, Carson City Branch Mint. Gettysburg, PA: Self-published, 2010.

Bugert, Bill. A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume III, New Orleans Branch Mint 1840-O to 1853-O NA. Gettysburg, PA: Self-published, 2011.

Carothers, Neil. Fractional Money. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1930.

Cooper, Dennis R. The Art and Craft of Coinmaking - A History of Minting Technology. London: Spink & Son, 1988.

The Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume I, First Edition, LSCC, 1980.

The Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume II, First Edition, LSCC, 1985.

The Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume III, First Edition, LSCC, 1990.

The Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume IV, First Edition, LSCC, 1996.

The Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume V, First Edition, LSCC, 2009.

The Gobrecht Journal individual unbound issues from 2000 to the present.

National Archives notes researched and compiled by Bill Bugert and Randy Wiley.

Wiley, Randy and Bill Bugert. The Complete Guide To Liberty Seated Half Dollars. Virginia Beach, VA: DLRC Press, 1993.

List of Major Contributors

Randy Wiley
Dick Osburn
Scott Mickelson
John Murison
Rich Uhrich
Barry Stallard
Gerry Fortin
Jane Waldron

Checklist of Pre-Arrows NO Branch Mint Die Marriages

<u>√</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>WB-#</u>	<u>Rarity</u>	<u>Variety</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-1	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-2	6	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-3	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-4	3	No Mintmark, Medium Letters, Large Eagle
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-5	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-6	6	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-7	2	Very small O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-8	5	Large O, Reengraved Obverse Dentils
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-9	4	Large O, Reengraved Obverse Dentils
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-10	3	Small O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-11	2	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-12	6	No Mintmark, Medium Letters, Large Eagle
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-13	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1840-O	WB-14	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-1	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-2	5	Medium O, Baseball Die Cracks
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-3	3	Medium O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-4	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-5	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-6	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-7	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-8	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-9	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-10	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1841-O	WB-11	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-1	5	Small Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-2	5	Small Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-3	3	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-4	4	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-5	4	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-6	5	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-7	5	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-8	3	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-9	4	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-10	4	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-11	4	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-12	3	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1842-O	WB-13	3	Medium Date, Errant 4 in Gown

<u>√</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>WB-#</u>	<u>Rarity</u>	<u>Variety</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-1	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-2	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-3	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-4	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-5	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-6	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-7	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-8	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-9	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-10	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-11	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-12	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-13	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-14	3	Large O, Repunched Mintmark
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-15	6	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-16	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-17	4	Large O, Doubled Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1843-O	WB-18	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-1	3	Large O, Repunched Mintmark
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-2	3	Large O, Center Dot Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-3	4	Large O, Center Dot Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-4	4	Large O, Center Dot Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-5	2	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-6	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-7	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-8	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-9	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-10	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-11	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-12	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-13	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-14	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-15	3	Large O, Repunched Second 4
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-16	3	Large O, Repunched Second 4
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-17	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-18	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-19	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-20	2	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-21	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1844-O	WB-22	4	Medium O, Dramatically Doubled Date

<u>√</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>WB-#</u>	<u>Rarity</u>	<u>Variety</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-1	2	Medium O, Doubled Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-2	4	Medium O, Repunched 845
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-3	3	Medium O over horizontal O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-4	4	Large O, Footless 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-5	4	Large O, Footless 1
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-6	3	Medium O over horizontal O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-7	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-8	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-9	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-10	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-11	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-12	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-13	6	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-14	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-15	5	Large O, Dramatically Doubled Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-16	4	Large O, Dramatically Doubled Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-17	4	Large O, Repunched 84
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-18	4	Large O, Tripled Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-19	4	Large O, Repunched 18
<input type="checkbox"/>	1845-O	WB-20	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-1	2	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-2	3	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-3	4	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-4	3	Medium Date, 18 repunched north
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-5	4	Medium Date, 18 repunched north
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-6	3	Medium Date, 1 6 repunched
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-7	3	Medium Date, 1 6 repunched
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-8	4	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-9	4	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-10	3	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-11	3	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-12	3	Medium Date, Repunched 6
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-13	3	Medium Date, Repunched 6
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-14	3	Medium Date (repunched 6)
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-15	4	Medium Date (repunched 6)
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-16	3	Medium date, Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-17	6	Medium date, Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-18	4	Medium date, Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-19	6	Medium date, Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-20	4	Medium date, Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-21	5	Medium Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-22	4	Large Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-23	4	Large Date

<u>√</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>WB-#</u>	<u>Rarity</u>	<u>Variety</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-24	5	Large Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-25	6	Large Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-26	4	Large Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1846-O	WB-27	4	Large Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-1	5	Large O, Doubled Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-2	2	Large O, Doubled Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-3	5	Large O, Doubled Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-4	3	Large O, Doubled Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-5	6	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-6	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-7	5	Repunched Mintmark
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-8	3	Repunched Mintmark
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-9	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-10	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-11	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-12	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-13	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-14	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-15	6	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-16	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-17	2	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-18	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-19	4	Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-20	6	Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-21	3	Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-22	2	Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-23	5	Repunched 7
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-24	4	Repunched 7
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-25	4	Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-26	4	Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-27	4	Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1847-O	WB-28	6	Repunched 7
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-1	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-2	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-3	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-4	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-5	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-6	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-7	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-8	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-9	2	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-10	2	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-11	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-12	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-13	3	Large O

<u>√</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>WB-#</u>	<u>Rarity</u>	<u>Variety</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-14	6	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-15	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-16	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-17	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-18	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-19	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-20	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-21	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-22	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-23	3	Large O, Filled 4
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-24	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-25	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1848-O	WB-26	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-1	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-2	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-3	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-4	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-5	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-6	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-7	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-8	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-9	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-10	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-11	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-12	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-13	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-14	2	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-15	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1849-O	WB-16	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-1	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-2	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-3	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-4	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-5	3	Large O, Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-6	5	Large O, Doubled Die Obverse
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-7	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-8	6	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-9	5	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-10	5	Large Repunched O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-11	3	Large Repunched O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-12	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-13	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1850-O	WB-14	6	Large O

<u>√</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>WB-#</u>	<u>Rarity</u>	<u>Variety</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	1851-O	WB-1	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1851-O	WB-2	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1851-O	WB-3	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1851-O	WB-4	3	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1851-O	WB-5	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1852-O	WB-1	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1852-O	WB-2	4	Large O
<input type="checkbox"/>	1853-O	WB-NC-1	8	No Arrows and Rays

