



Paul Barford and PAS Report WBY SF-3175A4 on “an Isaac I AR 2/3 Miliarension”

Dr W.R. Vezin 10-05-22

This coin, Lockdales’ Auction 127, 12-13 Sept. 2015, lot 1391 was unsold at £5000 to £6000. It was the subject of the above record issued and appearing on the same day on the PAS website 24th February 2015, the authenticity being signed-off as ‘certain’ by the two staff members. A copy was included with the lot. This resulted in some pre-sale online commentary by Barford, 29th August 2015, in quotes “ below, with my own [Dr. Vezin’s] ad hoc:

“... Interesting findspot, eh? That ‘all paperwork’ probably does not include a PAS report duplicating the database entry – because there seems to be none.” (?! His highlighting in red). “Quite who ‘Dr. Vezin’ is the auctioneer does not say. It was probably Dr. Roger Vezin who wrote about other finds for Lockdales” (I never had) “but what significance that may have” (there is none – an error by the cataloguer – I was only asked for histories of past sales) “is unclear. What evidence is provided about the findspot?” – See Report. After an account of Ag₂S formation which is more or less correct” (but see later in another article by myself) – he goes on – “Where was the coin found? Who was the finder? Who is the landowner and has Lockdales seen a finds release form signed by the landowner on whose land this reportedly was found? If not, why not? Does the seller have title to sell? What checks were carried out?”

This, all this and more is in the report and on an addendum by Lockdales on the copy in my library. As Barford correctly surmises the find site shows no sign of there ever having been an adventitious deposit of sulphide releasing material, but with the accompanying PAS Report and the implied regulatory status Lockdales could not really refuse the consignment. Advice... cut the wit and sharpen up the research.

We do receive queries about false PAS identifications / authentications from collectors etc.