

Basic Detail Report



Tetradrachm of Ptolemy (Obverse: Alexander; Reverse: Athena)

Date

c. 301-290 BCE

Primary Maker

Unidentified artist

Medium

silver

Description

Obverse: Head of Alexander, wearing elephant skin, diadem, and uraeus. A row of curls appears before the

diadem. Reverse: Helmeted Athena striding to right, with spear in raised right hand, shield in left. She wears a peplos and a short mantle hangs from her arms, her draperies rendered in an archaizing manner, exaggerating the swallowtail and ziz-zag folds of the late Archaic period. The round ornament on her chest suggests the gorgon on her cross-band cape or aegis. Two mint marks appear beneath the swallowtails of her garment: a mark (W?) in a circle at left and a "D I" at right. Vertically at left, is "ΑΛΕΞΑΝΔΡΟΥ" (of Alexandros). An eagle appears in the lower right corner, the right side cut off. Dots comprise the border, mostly missing, as the image on the reverse is a little off-center.

Dimensions

1 1/8 in., 0.0022 lb. (2.9 cm, 0.001 kg)