

Basic Detail Report



Greek Stater, Agrigento

Date

413 B.C.E. - 406 B.C.E.

Primary Maker

Unknown artist, Greek (Ancient)

Medium

Bronze

Description

Agrigento was one of the ancient Greek cities that formed Magna Graecia in southern Italy, and it was one of the wealthiest in the 5th century B.C.E. On its obverse, this coin from Agrigento depicts an eagle with its wings open and its head back. Eagles were used in coinage to represent Zeus and his omnipotence; in its claws, the eagle holds a fish, representative of Zeus' power. On the reverse of this coin is a crab, symbolizing Agrigento's naval

strength. This coin is a part of the Paine Coin Collection. This teaching collection of 32 Greek and Roman coins was formed by John Alsop Paine (1840 – 1912), Class of 1859, who was an archaeologist with the Palestine Exploration Society and a Curator in the Department of Casts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art from 1889 until 1906. The collection came to the college through John Alsop Paine's grandson, Nathaniel Emmons Paine (1853 – 1948), Class of 1874.

Dimensions

Diameter: 1 1/8 in. (2.8 cm)