A000-Mex-Aztec-Copper Money-1250 CE

[](http://www.ebay.com/itm/330870184638?_trksid=p2057872.m2749.l2648&ssPageName=STRK:MEBIDX:IT)

**Case No.: 10**

**Accession No.**

**Formal Label:** Mex-Aztec-Copper Money-1250 CE

**Display Description:**

Copper money was extensively used by all classes of Aztec society. The copper money was fashioned entirely by working (hammering). In shaping the object, the original metal blank was hammered and annealed many times to thin the metal, to spread the broad blade, and to form the raised flange that runs along the edges of the shank. The metal was pounded severely in the final stage of manufacture and was left in this forged condition, presumably to harden it. After the object was shaped, a series of grooves was made on one surface, both in the shank and in the blade. The photomicrographs reveal that these grooves were not cut into the metal. Rather, they were formed by a hard tool that was pressed into and dragged along the surface of the object. This tool compressed the metal immediately beneath it, forming the groove. The compressed, highly worked and deformed metal is characterized by elongated grains full of strain lines produced by the force exerted by the tool.

**LC Classification:**

**Date or Time Horizon: 1250 CE**

**Geographical Area:**

**Map:**

**GPS coordinates:**

**Cultural Affiliation:**

**Media:**

**Dimensions:**

**Weight:**

**Condition:**

**Provenance:**

**Discussion:**

**References:**