



Philip V Santa Fe Four Reales 1700 AV
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Santa Fe Four Reales 1700 AV
 Restrepo 5th edition number M74-1 (projected)

Assayer AV (Buenaventura de Arce), 27.8/25.2 mm, 13.52 grams. Image and metrics courtesy of Alexander Montaña.

Obverse: Crowned shield with Castile & León in correct order. Triangle at bottom of shield contains a dot for Granada. Left of shield is the value “•III•” with the trailing III• visible. Right of shield are a few dots which may be six dots (pearls) arranged in a cross as is the case on the 8 Reales of 1702. The castle and lion punches are the same used for the Eldorado (11064) 4 reales specimen 1693. The little legend visible at 2 o’clock is more consistent with PHILIPVS than with CAROLVS.

Reverse: Columns over waves with crown capitals of 3 crosses. Between columns is mintmark N^OR; above mintmark is PLVS / VL / T(R)A in three lines. Left of columns is the assayer mark “A • V” reading upward; the order of AV is different than VA on other related coins. Right of columns is a very clear, complete and fully struck date of 1700 reading downward. Central design a bit unclear making the PLVS VLTRA difficult to interpret. Only limited peripheral legend visible.



Provenance

This, the first known (discovery coin) 4 reales 1700, appeared in Bogotá in 2018 where it came to the attention of Alexander Montaña. He attributed the coin (as Charles II, 1700) and wrote the coin up in the January 2019 edition of the magazine *Monedas de Colombia* where it was illustrated on the front cover.

http://www.mascoleccionismo.com/publicaciones/MFMCol/MoneCol_002.pdf

- ✚ Montaña, Alexander. “Nuestra Portada” in *Monedas De Colombia*, # 2, Enero, 2019. Bogotá: Alexander Montaña Rodríguez, 2019. Illustrated on front cover and described on p. 4.



Commentary

A wonderful coin, single strike, well preserved and does not appear to be sea salvaged. The obverse legend is not visible but since we know of 8 reales of Charles II dated 1702 and 1703 we expect this 4 reales of 1700 would be CAROLVS II. However, 1700 was a transition year from Charles II to Philip V. In my studies of the gold 2 escudos we can determine that the Santa Fe mint transitioned from Charles II to Philip V to Charles II then to Philip V again. The 2 escudos study suggests that the transitions from Charles II to Philip V to Charles II occurred from 1700 to 1703 and then back to Philip V after the end of the War of Spanish Succession in 1715. See my article “Santa Fe 2 Escudos 1702 Assayer VA”. In consultation with Alexander Montaña we agree that Philip V is the better attribution for this coin. Further study is required to more fully map the dated coins in the tumultuous years of 1700-1715 but this coin is an important piece to the puzzle.



Due to the effort spent researching for his book *Las monedas coloniales hispano-americanas* José Toribio Medina referred to it as his collection regardless if the coins were in his personal collection or not. (Medina: VII) *Por tal razón, en esa parte bien podría llamarle Catálogo de mi colección de monedas hispano-americanas* I feel the same way towards my own virtual collection and in his honor I am emulating some features of his book including the use of selected graphics—*author*.