

Beginner's Corner

Class VIII Doubled Dies

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Tilted Hub Doubling

The final known class of doubled dies is the Class VIII “tilted hub doubling” varieties. They are the result of either a tilted hub or a tilted die in the hubbing press. Since one of them is tilted, their faces will not be parallel as they should be. When the hubbing takes place, one side of the hub and the die will make contact before the other does. As a result, coins produced in this manner will have doubling on one side but not on the other. Also, it will most likely be a partial design.

If the hub is tilted on an early hubbing, the side of the hub which first makes contact with the die will be drawn slightly towards the center of the die as the impression is being made. When subsequent normal hubbings are made, the design will be properly oriented a bit closer to the rim and doubled images will appear with the spread being towards the rim (strong complete design towards the rim and weaker partial design towards the center). If the hub is tilted on the final hubbing, the strongest impression will be the partial design. As such, we describe the spread as being towards the center (weaker complete design towards the rim and stronger partial design towards the center).

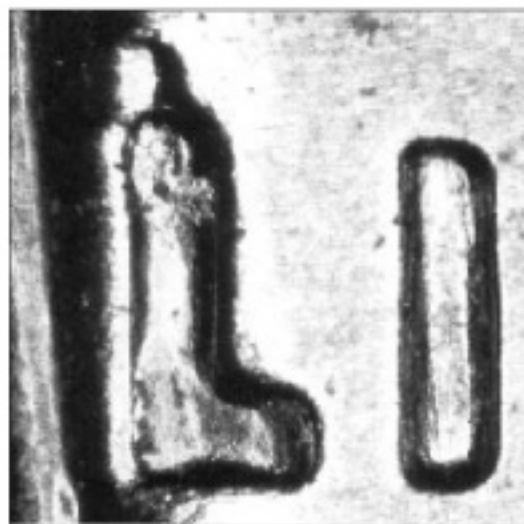
If it is the die that is tilted on an early hubbing, the hub will make contact nearer to the rim. When later hubbings with proper hub/die alignment are made, the result will be dies with the stronger complete design spread towards the center and the weaker partial design towards the rim. If the die is tilted on a later hubbing, the stronger partial design will be spread towards the rim and the weaker complete design towards the center.

Knowing all of this, it is possible to tell wheth-

er it was the hub or the die which was tilted as well as whether the tilt occurred on an initial hubbing or on one of the final hubbings.

Class VIII doubled dies display spreads that are either towards the center of the die or towards its rim. Since Class II doubled dies also feature spreads that are towards the center of the die or towards its rim, reexamination of previously listed Class II varieties must be done as some of those listed as Class II varieties may have been misattributed and may actually be Class VIII doubled dies. If the doubling exists on only one side of the coin and not the other, it is a prime candidate for restudy. The Class VIII variety will have a point of strongest doubling and then, as you move away from that point in both directions around the rim, it will start to diminish.

Most currently listed Class VIII doubled die varieties were attributed as such only because they also display either a Class I rotation or a Class V pivot which pulled the doubling in either a CW or a CCW direction as well. Had it not been for the CW or CCW spread, they probably would have been listed as Class II varieties.



This 1964 cent listed as **1964 1c WDDO-007** shows nice doubling on the letters of IN and the L of LIBERTY. Notice how on the letters of IN the weaker image is pulled towards the center of the die. This would indicate that it was the hub which was tilted and that it was tilted on an early hubbing of the die. Note also that if the CCW pivot had not occurred, the doubling on IN would probably be hidden by the stronger hubbing images of those letters.



Here we see a typical Class VIII spread on the reverse of a 1963 quarter. This variety is listed as **1963 25c WDDR-006**. Once again, it was the hub which was tilted on one of the early hubbings.